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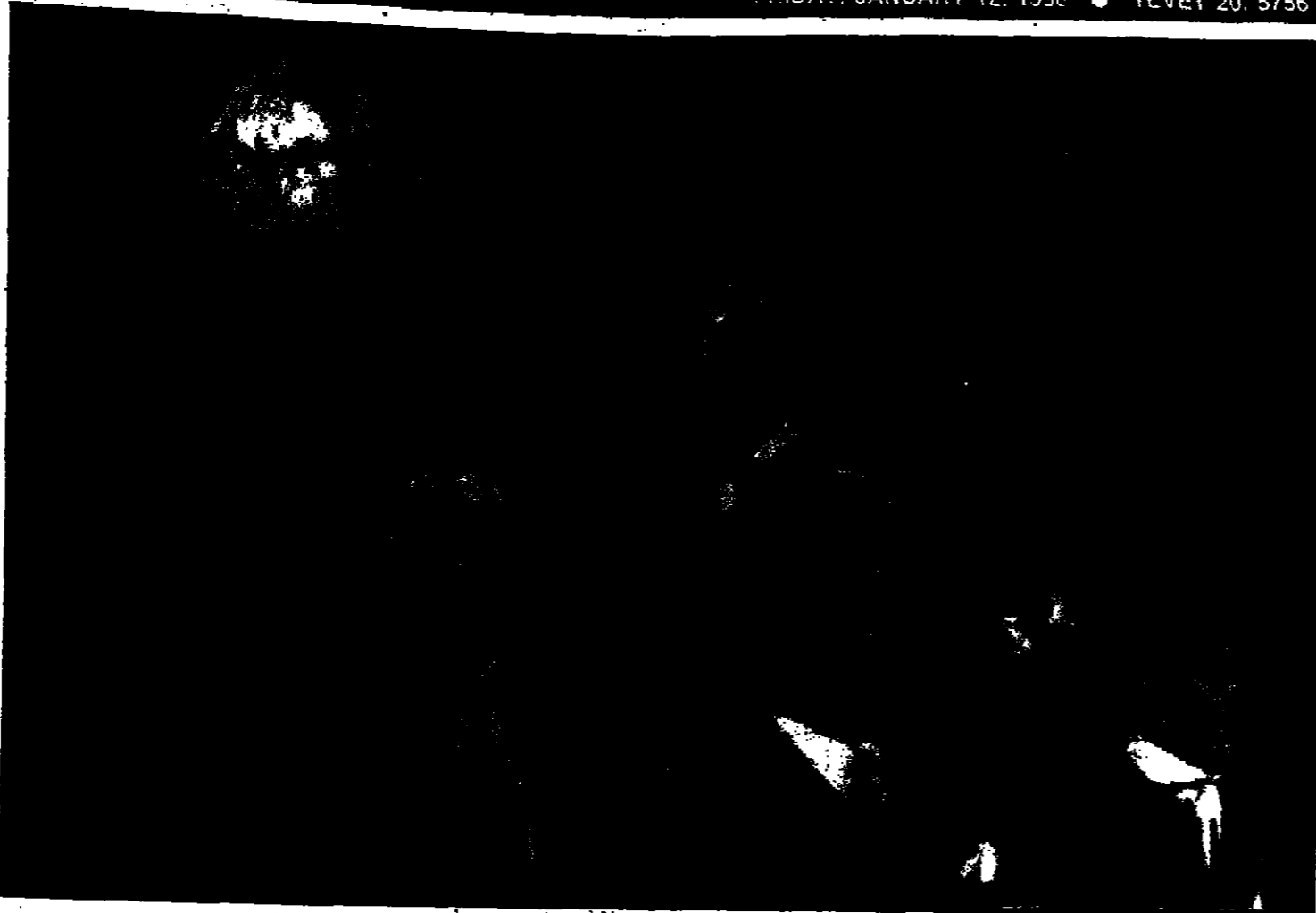
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German Chancellor Helmut Kohl shakes hands with PM Shimon Peres at yesterday's mass for Francois Mitterrand at Notre Dame Cathedral...

Peres meets Yemeni leader at Mitterrand funeral

Jerusalem Post Staff and agencies

PRIME Minister Shimon Peres and Yemen's President Gen. Ali Abdullah Saleh held a surprise meeting yesterday in Paris...

the Syrians, he believes that Yemen may follow in the same direction, Peres told reporters. Peres promised the Yemeni leader that normalization with Israel could proceed slowly...

Court: Terminally ill pilot can opt against life-support system

RAINE MARCUS

IN a precedent-setting verdict, the Tel Aviv District Court ruled yesterday that a former IAF pilot suffering from a terminal disease will not have to be connected to life support machines against his will.

Partnership with Syria still uncertain - Barak

Christopher returns today after Damascus visit

ISRAELI negotiators appear to be toning down expectations of an early breakthrough with Syria, as US Secretary of State Warren Christopher flew to Damascus yesterday on the second leg of his current Middle East shuttle.

BATSHEVA TSUR, LIAT COLLINS, and news agencies Plantation, and when Christopher perhaps returns here after that. Golan vigil today, South Lebanon quiet, Page 3

discussions have not yet started on vital issues like the border, security arrangements, water sources and a timetable. In the next round, we would like to discuss security issues, water issues and economic issues...

'Karmi Gillon is outgoing GSS head'

Blasts Shamgar Commission over leaks

THE name of the outgoing head of the General Security Service is Karmi Gillon, 45, The Washington Post revealed yesterday. Channel 1's Mabat news reported last night that Gillon's successor, Adm. (res.) Ami Ayalon, is to meet with Prime Minister Shimon Peres today...

earlier this week. Shamgar chose to respond in a public statement, released by the Justice Ministry and addressed directly to the GSS chief. The media reports on the content of the commission's hearings, or what is purported to be the content, are in no way coming from the commission or its administration...

believe cause you damage, this is between you and the media, Shamgar said. It is in your hands to show the writers of these things that they are incorrect, Shamgar said. The commission has no intention of responding to the different media reports.

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Anti-gov't protest planned

First mass right-wing rally since Rabin assassination

FOR the first time since the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin, a coalition of right-wing groups is organizing a mass rally with a decidedly anti-government tone, to take place in Jerusalem next week.

Fliers were distributed yesterday which read, "On January 20, on Shabbat of all days, elections will take place for the Palestinian Authority. Eastern Jerusalem residents will elect and be elected to the Palestinian government."

"Foreign representatives and Palestinian representatives will roam freely around Jerusalem to make sure that residents of sovereign Jerusalem will be able to 'vote freely.' The city will be covered in green, black and red flags, and pictures of Arafat will fly high. This is how

the Peres government preserves a united Jerusalem."

The fliers then call on people to join a mass demonstration in the capital on the night of the elections.

A rally that attracted just over 1,000 people was held near the exit from Gilo on December 25 to protest the withdrawal from Bethlehem, but that was organized at the last minute. Earlier in the month, a rally supporting the national religious movement - not specifically an anti-government protest - was held in Tel Aviv.

Palestinian officials have protested the dem-

onstrations, and have called the ban on public election rallies as discriminatory.

Jerusalem police spokesman Shmuel Ben-Ruby denied the charge. "The election procedures were decided by a joint Palestinian-Israeli committee, and among the decisions was that no election rallies would be allowed in eastern Jerusalem," he said.

"The Palestinian representative on the committee, Saeb Erekat, agreed to this," Ben-Ruby said.

The spokesman said a permit would be given to the right-wing groups to hold a demonstration on the evening of January 20.

He added, however, that "police will not allow any interference with the election process."

HERB KEINON
and BILL HUTMAN

Arab parliaments hope to stop US Embassy move

THE Arab Parliamentary Union urged the US Congress yesterday to annul a vote to move the US Embassy from Tel Aviv to Jerusalem.

The union, which represents all Arab parliaments, said in a statement after a one-day meeting in Amman that the congressional vote could hamper Arab-Israeli peace efforts. (AP)

Winning numbers and cards

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the eight of spades, jack of hearts, ace of diamonds and eight of clubs.

In last night's Paysis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 715360 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 299062 won a car.

Tickets numbered 154281, 805544, 819449, 600404, 131175, 830948, 212291 and 559526 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 37253, 76945, 70667, 91771, 77959, 08843, 24226, 53402, 49990, 02299, 35289, 09785, 87188, 94591, 16844 98644, 86858, 43418 and 64534 won NIS 1,000. Tickets ending in 767, 565, 605, 219, and 346 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 50, 46, 34, 87 and 16 won NIS 24. Tickets ending in 1 and 5 won NIS 8.

CORRECTION

The man pictured with Prime Minister Shimon Peres on Page 2 of Wednesday's edition was Marcelo Stugin, the deputy chairman of the Foreign Affairs Committee of the Argentinean parliament, and not as stated.

Women voters: An uncertain factor

PALESTINIAN ELECTIONS '96

JON IMMANUEL

THE meeting was fixed for 10, but the candidates arrived late, and in reverse order of political celebrity - neophyte Rana Nashashibi, 10:10; Zahira Kamal, a leading women's activist, at 11; and finally, Hanan Ashrawi at 11:15.

The village women in black robes and white head scarves who attended the Wednesday meeting in Issawiya - a few blocks and a world away from Jerusalem's Hyatt Regency Hotel - did not mind waiting, as they listened to Nashashibi, in her long hair and modern clothes, expound on day-care centers.

When Ashrawi arrived in a two-piece suit, looking like she was attending a peace-talks session, there was a murmur of deference. Everyone recognized her face.

Ashrawi, the spokeswoman of the Palestinian delegation to the Madrid peace talks, compared the merits of her team with the PLO Oslo team, citing the latter's lack of concern with details. The women appeared flattered to be addressed so familiarly on the big political issues.

The women were traditional Moslems. Ashrawi, a Christian, is running as an independent. Kamal, a long-time women's activist, represents FIDA, Fatah's social-democratic partner. Nashashibi, at 33, is one of the youngest candidates of the People's Party (former communists), the best-represented group after Fatah. The three are rivals, but all are equally eager to bring out the women's vote, one of the great unknown factors in next Saturday's council election.

"I hear from many women that they will be voting for women," Nashashibi said, buoyed by polls which show more than 70 percent are prepared to do so.

There are 27 women candidates. Women are a majority of the Palestinian population, but less than 4% of the candidates, which is why many feel like a disadvantaged minority.

While most men represent the conservative interests of their clans, the women can be numbered among the progressive forces in Palestinian society, demanding action on issues that go to the core of democracy - equal opportunity, freedom to choose marriage partners, the right to inherit, the right to higher education, and, by implication, the right to choose their own political representatives independent of their husbands' choices.

Polls show that women are less well-disposed than men toward the peace process. More than half

the women candidates also represent moderate opposition forces, identified with the People's Party, Dr. Haidar Abdel-Shafi's Movement for Building Democracy, or Fatah intifada activists. But even those strongly identified with PLO Chairman Yasser Arafat - like Intissar Wazir, the widow of Abu Jihad - take a strong position on women's issues.

Samiba Khalil opposes the peace process altogether and is running against Arafat for council president, appearing daily in a different Palestinian town. Tomorrow she is due in Gaza. Her independent decision to enter a contest in which men feared to tread is likely to embolden women voters.

"I don't think you can accurately predict the result of these elections. Women's fight for democracy will be as fierce as the fight to end occupation," said Nashashibi.

This is the third in a series on the upcoming Palestinian elections.



A Palestinian woman fires an AK-47 rifle into the air at a mass rally yesterday in Nabulus honoring terrorist Yihye Ayyash, 'the Engineer,' who was killed last Friday. (Reuters)

Nabulus governor praises Ayyash at rally

AT a Hamas rally in Nabulus yesterday, the PLO governor, Mahmoud Alloul, eulogized Yihye Ayyash, who was responsible for the deaths of more than 50 Israelis in suicide bomb attacks.

The rally was the third and largest this week, after previous ones in Halhoul and Bethlehem.

JON IMMANUEL
and news agencies

The Israeli flag was burned and many swore revenge.

"We make an oath to our martyr, the engineer of the revolution, the martyr of Palestine and of the Islamic nation, to keep

working until all our rights are restored," Alloul said.

Hamas spokesman Ibrahim Ghoshah vowed by phone from Amman that Ayyash's death would be avenged.

Meanwhile, Hamas prisoners, some of whom had killed Palestinians, were among the 200 released at Nahal Oz in Gaza and in other Palestinian towns yesterday, bringing to 1,000 those released this week.

Some of those released had served less than four years of life sentences.

The conditions of release included signing a pledge not to engage in violence and not to leave Palestinian-controlled territory until the end of their sentences.

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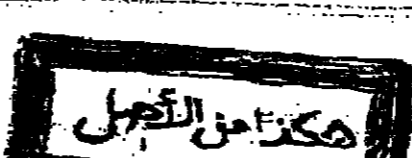
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Vigils planned today against Golan pullout

OPPOSITION leaders and heads of the Golan Residents Committee agreed yesterday on a wide-spread campaign, including demonstrations at road junctions throughout the country, to rally support against withdrawal from the Golan.

Committee spokesman Uri Heitner said: protest vigils would be staged at 60 road junctions today, from 1 p.m. to 2:30 p.m.

Two former heads of the Northern Command, Yitzhak Mordechai and Yossi Peled, were

DAVID RUDGE

against withdrawal. Both Mordechai and Peled stressed the vital security importance of the Golan, which no guarantees or early warning stations, no matter how sophisticated, could replace.

Eitan maintained that tanks on the Golan, just two hours away from Damascus, are the real deterrent against war and are worth more than a thousand peace agreements.

Netanyahu said that withdrawal would only strengthen Syria.

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A ringing quiet in south Lebanon

COMMENT
DAVID RUDGE

IT may be coincidence that the latest round of shuttle diplomacy by US Secretary of State Warren Christopher has not been accompanied by the "usual" heavy fighting in south Lebanon.

Hizbullah could simply be taking a rest, as could Amal. Alternatively, they might be reorganizing, or preparing for future actions against the security zone.

It is also conceivable, however, that a stern message was sent to both Lebanese organizations by the Syrians to refrain from doing anything that might disrupt, or distract from, the discussions in Damascus and Jerusalem.

The fact is that the past few days have seen a marked drop in incidents, apart from a number of attacks directed against South Lebanese Army targets and mortar fire at an IDF convoy, for which no organization claimed responsibility.

The decline in tension has been noticed on both sides of the border. UNIFIL spokesman Timur Goksel said that Wednesday was the quietest day in south Lebanon in "many, many years, without a shot being fired in anger."

The situation yesterday was similar, with no major incidents reported. In the past year, attacks had been occurring at a rate of over two per day.

Syria was severely censured by the US over Hizbullah's Katyusha rocket attacks on the Gahleez panhandle at the end of last month. Hizbullah said the Katyushas were retaliation for IDF tank fire at a village north of the zone, in which one person was killed and five wounded.

Hizbullah might have its own agenda in Lebanon, but it is still subservient to the dictates of Syrian President Hafez Assad, whose troops control supply routes, and the areas of Beirut and the Bekaa Valley where Hizbullah has its headquarters and training bases.

Southern Lebanon is perhaps the litmus test of Assad's immediate intentions. As a bargaining chip, the fox of Damascus fully knows its worth.

Officers who have detained... told the committee that steps were taken to improve security for Rabin and other ministers when it was determined there was a real threat of attack by Jewish extremists.

One of those steps was to beef up manpower in the VIP Protection Division. GSS officers told the commission this week that a request for additional funding to pay for the extra manpower was held up by the Finance Ministry.

Starting next week, D., the former head of the service's Protection Department, is slated to begin presenting his defense. He is being represented by attorney Uri Slonim.

Sources close to the commission stressed that the resignation

security Minister Moshe Shaleh.

Few other new witnesses are scheduled to be heard. Instead, the sources said, the commission will concentrate on hearing the defenses of the GSS and the police officers that it warned may be found responsible for the failures leading to the assassination.

D., who begins his defense Sunday, was accused by the commission of "not acting as needed in preparing the Protection Department for the threat of an attack on the prime minister."

D. resigned his post immediately after the assassination, but he still believes that he has been unfairly accused by the commission, the sources said.

BARAK

(Continued from Page 1)

He declined to say whether Christopher agrees with Israeli leaders that the delegation should be broadened to include military experts and economists, but said the issue of "who should be in the room" is high on Christopher's agenda for the meeting.

Christopher will return here later today.

Damascus Radio described the US role in the peace process as "more powerful and intensive" than in the past, and said Syria hopes to reach a settlement with Israel.

Barak stressed that Israel would not be tied down to any date as far as negotiations with Damascus were concerned, saying that peace needed careful deliberations and could not be achieved "at any price. We are cautiously optimistic, but there is no deadline and there will not be peace at any price."

Observers said that there appeared to be a difference of opinion between Prime Minister Shimon Peres, who has hinted at a possible breakthrough with Damascus, and Barak, who seemed to be taking a more cautious line. Earlier, a senior source stressed that Israel had not given the Syrians any assurances with regard to the depth of the

withdrawal.

"The formula put forward by Yitzhak Rabin that the depth of the withdrawal will determine the depth of the withdrawal is still our guideline," he said. "The Syrians have not received from us any political commitment with regard to the extent of a withdrawal. It would be foolhardy to make such a promise in advance. That is our best negotiating card."

The source totally discounted media reports that Israel had agreed to withdraw to the borders of June 4, 1967. "There has been no offer - secretly or otherwise - of any withdrawal line," he stressed.

"What we are doing, both sides, is feeling the other side out. The Syrians are very systematic. We are going through our positions, subject by subject. In some cases the Syrians are able to provide answers at the negotiating table and in other cases they have to wait for a response from Assad."

Sarid is doubtful that even a declaration of principles could be drawn up with Syria this year.

"I will be most surprised if we reach a peace agreement with Syria in 1996," he said. "The main questions are still ahead of us. I'm always prepared for pleasant surprises, and we will do our utmost, but I doubt it's possible."

need to be connected to such machines.

The patient's lawyer, Zahi Hoshan, who has occasionally fought for the right of terminally ill patients to die as they wish, praised the decision.

"This is a breakthrough and a very important day," said Hoshan, who eight years ago founded the Die with Dignity association.

AES is a progressive degenerative fatal disease affecting the spinal cord, characterized by increasing and spreading muscular weakness and eventually paralysis. There is no effect on the person's mental capacity.

Arad is confined to a wheelchair and unable to speak. He communicates with his lawyer by nodding his head.

Teigam ruled yesterday not only in favor of Arad, but also in favor of a second petitioner, a 69-year old pensioner from the North. The man also suffers from a terminal disease, is confined to a wheelchair and has difficulty functioning. His name has not been made public.

"Neither one of the petitioners should be connected to life-support systems or artificial breathing apparatus," said Teigam. "And if they are connected, doctors must disconnect them when it becomes apparent that the patient needs permanent assistance to function."

Teigam upheld the petitioners' resistance to the intervention by others in the natural course of their diseases.

"The main point here should be the dignity of the patient, and not that of the indecisive physician," he said.

"This is not an issue of anyone wanting to take his own life," ruled Teigam. "The matter of the sanctity of life is also not in question."

detention

HERB KEINON

ARYEH Friedman, a Jerusalem resident and rabbinical court lawyer, was arrested yesterday and placed under administrative detention.

Friedman, a Kiryat Moshe resident and father of 12, was arrested in the afternoon by three plainclothes policemen. His wife, Sara, said the police gave no reason for his arrest, and just showed him an order signed by Defense Minister Shimon Peres.

According to Sara Friedman, the policemen conducted an extensive search of their home.

She said she has no idea why her husband was arrested, but that he was questioned once before the Rabin assassination, and once after. She said her husband was asked whether he is planning to undermine the government, or whether he knows of plans to undermine the government.

Aryeh Friedman was brought before a Jerusalem District Court judge, who put off until Monday a hearing on the validity of the administrative detention, his wife said.

Sara Friedman said her husband is not affiliated with Kach.

If the court upholds the administrative detention, Friedman will join Shmuel Cytrin, a Kiryat Arba resident, who was placed under three months' administrative detention on December 4. Cytrin is currently on a hunger strike protesting his detention, and his petition against the detention is pending before the High Court of Justice.

Friedman moved from Kiryat Arba to Jerusalem about six weeks ago.

YEMENI

(Continued from Page 1)

accompanying Saleh as saying "News that circulated today [Thursday] that an official meeting was held today between President Ali Abdullah Saleh and Israeli Premier Shimon Peres was baseless."

"There is no kind of official or other contacts between officials from the Yemeni Republic and Israel," he added.

Asked if France was willing to send troops to the Golan Heights after an Israeli withdrawal, Peres told reporters: "The French president said that if it would be necessary, France would be prepared to participate with a guarantee of security."

3 QUESTIONS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL

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Terrorism ups and downs

A Peace Watch study released on Wednesday, which shows a marked decline in terrorist activities in the last quarter of 1995, is hardly startling news. Every Israeli is happily aware of the relative quiet the country has enjoyed in past months. And if there is still no dancing in the streets it is only because no one believes the scourge of terrorism has disappeared. The optimistic view is that the decline reflects a general trend, and that the Palestinian terror organizations are beginning to realize that peace can achieve more than terrorism. But even sworn optimists do not believe that what is euphemistically known as "the armed struggle" is over.

To the less optimistic, the reasons for the lull seem both clear and ominous. The Peace Watch report, while avoiding an elaborate analysis of the phenomenon, mentions some of the possible causes of the relative inactivity. It notes that the last few months have witnessed intensive negotiations on expanding Palestinian rule, and - more important - the beginning of the army's withdrawal in Judea and Samaria.

Aware that major terrorist acts might stop the withdrawal, the terrorist organizations may have feared being blamed for undermining the "liberation" of the West Bank's major cities. Similarly, the Palestinian Authority, concerned about the effect of terrorism on the Israeli evacuation, made a special effort to dissuade the Islamists from launching major attacks.

Israeli measures have helped, too. The imposition of closures on the territories after major terrorist acts was widely condemned as collective punishment, but it made Palestinians resent Hamas and Islamic Jihad for depriving them of a livelihood. They soon realized that the pride they took in the daring, suicidal operations by the revered "martyrs" failed to compensate for the loss of income from work in Israel.

Nor should the effectiveness of Israel's field actions against terrorism be underestimated. Whole cells of Hamas cadres have been uncovered in Judea and Samaria, producing hundreds of arrests. Leading terrorists have been eliminated, either by special units which hunted them down or by sophisticated booby traps. The most dramatic success has been the elimination in Gaza of arch-terrorist and mastermind of most of the suicide bombings, Yihye Ayyash.

But it is precisely these successes which raise concerns about the future. Israel's withdrawal in Judea and Samaria has drastically changed the conditions which made them possible. In the past, Israel had ready access to places in which terrorist groups can organize, train, deploy and use for shelter. Access to informants and allies

in the Palestinian population, whose help made the prevention of innumerable attacks possible, has also been curtailed.

In a paper recently issued by the think tank "Shalem Center - National Policy Institute," terrorism expert Boaz Ganor maintains that the government's policy of "fighting terrorism as if there is no peace process, and pursuing the process as if there is no terrorism" is an irreconcilable contradiction in terms.

The Oslo agreements, says Ganor, have in effect transferred responsibility for protecting Israelis from terrorists to the Palestinian Authority, whose interest in vanquishing terror is at best temporary. Like many experts, Ganor believes that the purpose of Palestinian terrorism is not to undermine the Oslo agreement, much less to abort it, but to accelerate the process of Israeli withdrawal.

As one Hamas activist has put it, "Israel withdrew from the Gaza Strip and signed the Gaza-Jericho agreement because of the [terrorist] strikes against Israeli targets. These strikes did not prevent the implementation of the Gaza-Jericho agreement." Not unreasonably, the terrorists believe that what drove Israel out was their actions, not a genuine Israeli desire for compromise and peace. That Israel got into the habit of announcing after every murderous incident that it would not "surrender" to terror by stopping the process but instead hasten the withdrawal only reinforced this conviction.

What bothers Ganor in particular is the collaboration between Israel's security services and those of the Palestinian Authority. "Intelligence supplied by classified sources [by Israel] so that they would thwart acts of terror. But the Palestinians use this information to hurt Israel's 'collaborators.'"

Nor can the release from prison of terrorists, especially those "with blood on their hands," help discourage terrorism. To its shame, Israel only refuses to free such terrorists if the blood is Jewish. Those who have killed Israel's Arab allies have been released. But there is little doubt that all terrorists will ultimately be freed.

The current withdrawal phase is scheduled to be completed in March, when Hebron is evacuated. At that time the immediate incentive for the current lull will disappear, and if the Hamas-Fatah agreement is still in force then, the PA will do nothing against terrorism launched from areas not under Palestinian control. It is then that the degree of collaboration between the PA and the Islamists will become apparent, and current government policies will be subjected to their ultimate test.

All's well, they say soothingly

ARIEL SHARON

THERE'S something cynical about the government's bill on the implementation of the interim agreement. Here is the government promoting a contract which is being crudely violated by the Palestinian Authority even before it is signed.

Arafat undertook to combat terrorism, and he has consistently broken this commitment. Since the agreement was signed, Palestinian terrorism has claimed 162 killed and almost 800 wounded. Israel has taken not a single step to pressure Arafat. We have set no condition for continuing our withdrawal - not even a hint that if he continues his policy, we'll consider restoring our right to hot pursuit and preemptive action whenever necessary.

The government builds bypass roads to protect Jews from attack and to avoid irritating the Palestinian population by having Israeli traffic flowing through its midst. Huge sums have been spent on these roads. But on the Bethlehem bypass, Israeli cars are attacked daily.

A few days ago, a Jewish family, including small children, driving home on this bypass road to Efrat, was attacked with four firebombs - as though nothing has changed. And yet the government continues to spread the lie that all is well.

The PA could have been told that no further steps regarding Israel's withdrawal would be taken until security on this road is restored. Alternatively, Israeli traffic could resume using the road through Bethlehem. Or no traffic south or north of Bethlehem would be allowed until there is a complete cessation of attacks

hasn't done it. Jericho serves as a sanctuary for terrorists, and a staging-ground for their attacks. In that town alone, there are more than 40 wanted men linked to attacks on Israelis.

Israel has submitted only three requests for extradition, but has not had the courtesy of a single reply.

The ostrich syndrome is alive and well in the government

on Jewish travelers. The possibilities are many.

IN THE agreement the PA undertook to round up all weapons and means of attack from residents in the zones handed over to it. They haven't done this. The opposite has occurred: The Gaza Strip has become a huge stockpile of weapons, professional sabotage equipment, and other means of attack. These are transferred to Judea and Samaria.

Hamas even succeeded in setting up a base inside Israel; it was discovered by chance in an Arab settlement in the Negev.

Arafat promised to extradite terrorists to Israel, if they struck after the Oslo Agreement; he

The two Ramle murderers are in "open detention" in Gaza, while in Jericho the murderers of the two young hikers in Wadi Kelt and of Ofra Felix can be seen lounging in the city square, drinking coffee at their ease.

Arafat made no effort to capture Yihye Ayyash, the "Engineer," who has meanwhile been eliminated; he was directly responsible for the murder of dozens of Israelis. This was a serious PA violation of the agreement with Israel.

Arafat has been proclaiming a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital virtually daily, in breach of the agreement - and Israel stays silent.

- As soon as implementation of

Oslo 2 began, the Palestinians were already violating it, beginning to take control of areas in Zone B. In Jerusalem, they continue to operate their "security services" on Arafat's direct orders, in blatant violation of the agreement.

A Palestinian newspaper editor holding an Israeli identity card was abducted from Jerusalem at Arafat's behest for rigorous interrogation in Jericho. Not a single cabinet minister dared to get up and protest these violations of the agreement, of the law, and of civil rights.

Considering these grave breaches of the agreement by Arafat, and lacking any Israeli reaction, it is quite ludicrous to be tabling the bill on implementing the agreement in the Knesset. It only testifies to this government's inability to conduct negotiations.

The Oslo agreement is fundamentally invalid; but the government, even from its own point of view, should insist that all its clauses are fulfilled. If the majority of them are already being violated, what will happen once the Palestinians have everything they want? What shall we use to pressure them then?

The writer, a Likud MK, is a former defense minister.

A long string of foolish blunders

MISHA LOUVISH

THE monstrous comparison between the six million Jews murdered by the Nazis and the Palestinians under Israeli rule made by Palestinian Authority Justice Minister Freih Abu Medein is only the latest in a long series of Palestinian blunders.

I believe that a majority of Israelis recognize that the Palestinians constitute a distinct national community. They favor a reasonable compromise enabling the Palestinians to rule themselves in peace side by side with Israel, and support the government's efforts to reach an agreement on this basis.

However, much of the Palestinians' behavior and many of their leaders' statements are turning Israeli public opinion against them, weakening their case, and strengthening the opposition to the peace process.

First of all, the Palestinians ought to recognize their own responsibility for their plight. For 19 years, from 1948 to 1967, they were under Arab rule; Israel did not hold an inch of the territory they now claim.

Instead of pressing their case for independence against the Egyptians, who occupied the Gaza Strip, and the Jordanian kingdom, which ruled them on its West Bank, they turned all their fury against Israel.

In 1964, three years before the beginning of the Israeli occupation, they formed the Palestine Liberation Organization, which adopted a genocidal National Covenant calling for the destruction of Israel by military force.

It was not "colonialism" or "imperialism" that brought the Gaza Strip and the West Bank under Israeli rule in 1967, but self-defense against Arab aggression.

After its victory, the government of Israel made generous peace offers, but the Arab summit conference in Khartoum, at which the PLO was represented, retorted: No recognition of Israel, no negotiations with Israel, no peace with Israel.

It was the late Menachem Begin who, at Camp David in 1978, signed what may be regarded as the "Palestinians' Balfour Declaration," recognizing "the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people and their just requirements."

(Similar language was used in the League of Nations Mandate, which recognized "the historical connection of the Jewish people with Palestine," and "the grounds for reconstituting their national home in that country.")

public opinion of the sincerity of its desire for peace.

Instead, Arafat has made numerous incendiary speeches, praising "outstanding" terrorists, talking of jihad, which, to the ordinary person, means holy war, and claiming Jerusalem as his capital.

This rhetoric no doubt makes him more popular with the ignorant members of his own people; but he should remember that Israeli public opinion has yet to be convinced of his sincerity.

The question of Jerusalem is crucial. Talk of "Arab Jerusalem" as the Palestinian capital inevitably provokes reactions like

A little realism would go far in helping the Palestinians realize their aspirations

offered the Palestinians, for the first time in history, the prospect of governing themselves.

After three generations of Arab belligerency and terrorism, the Palestinian leadership should have done everything in its power to moderate the attitudes of its own people and persuade Israeli

that of Mayor Ehud Olmert, who denies the legitimacy of any Arab ties with the city, apart from the personal rights of its Arab residents.

The Palestinians should admit the plain fact that Jerusalem entered world history and inspired the devotion of Christianity and

Islam only because of what the Jewish people created there after David made it his capital, and that it was never an Arab capital.

We, on the other hand, should realize that Jerusalem is not only the capital of Israel and the Jewish people, but a natural center for the West Bank, and a focus of interest for the entire Islamic world.

There can only be one sovereignty in one city. If that is not challenged, it may be possible to devise ways of recognizing Arab interests in the city, and facilitating Arab ties with it.

The most useful step the Palestinians could take would be to participate in the municipal elections, which would give them much-improved standing in the protection of their rights.

The Palestinians today have a great historic opportunity. They can succeed only in cooperation with Israel. If they can maintain an orderly democratic regime in the areas under their control, prevent offenses against Israeli security, and avoid wild rhetoric, they may succeed in realizing a large part of their aspirations.

The writer is a veteran member of the Zionist and Labor movements.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

FIGHTING UNITS

Sir, - One can accept most of the slightly wistful pieces written by Teddy Kolek in honor of a career of trying to keep Jerusalem united in spirit as well as body. However, his statement that "the Jewish state was created... by the actions of secular Jews. The fighting was done by the Hagana, the IZL, Lehi and later the IDF. In the years that followed, it was mostly non-Orthodox youngsters who defended Israel with their lives" (*Capital Talk*, December 29) cannot be considered justifiable.

Is Mr. Kolek unaware that there were many religious among those who fell in these fighting units? Is he ready to confront the mothers of the religious youngsters who are falling every day in our battles in the north, who do not desert their posts, because they are dedicated to their country? Is he aware of the fact that the spirit of Zionism, the desire to build the Jewish state and to sacrifice for it is very strong in the hearts of the religious because it is part of their faith?

His attempt to balance the article with some words of encouragement for our religious heritage and morals does not compensate for the damage done.

L.P. HORWITZ

Ra'anana.

B-G'S VIEWS

Sir, - In his article of December 29, Teddy Kolek came out in defense of the government's policy of surrendering lands for a hoped-for peace agreement with the Arab world by citing Ben-Gurion's willingness to withdraw from the territories with the exception of Jerusalem. Yet, the truth is that Teddy forgot that Ben-Gurion also said that we should never step down from the Golan, which is presently the subject of our negotiations with Syria in Maryland.

Any government which is intent on giving away our water sources and our defense capabilities for a piece of paper called peace will also not hesitate when the time comes to permit the Jerusalem issue to stand in the way of the peace process despite the views of Teddy Kolek and Ben-Gurion on this subject.

JOSHUA J. ADLER

Jerusalem.

THE LONG SCHOOL DAY

Sir, - As if by magic, prior to debate on the budget law, the words "long school day" are brought up. Apparently, the phrase can rally a not-insignificant group of Knesset members. Unfortunately, they are insufficiently familiar with what is going on in the education system.

Lengthening the school day is problematic for several reasons: The learning ability of the average student does not improve after 2 p.m., the time when most Israeli pupils finish their formal studies. Adding so many hours to the system will require a parallel increase in teaching staff, whose training takes time. And these are only the most immediate and obvious arguments.

It is true that European and American pupils study each day until 4, and this is the bait that stimulates the imagination of those who want the Israeli school system to resemble the system in Western Europe and the US. However, if we examine the number of actual hours of study in these countries, we find that pupils study only 30 hours a week because of the lunch break in the middle of the school day, and the fact that the school week is only five days long, while the Israeli pupil studies an average of 32 hours per week, in other words, more than his European or American counterpart.

Thus, what the Israeli education system needs is a transition to a five-day study week, similar to the process currently being introduced in the Israeli work force. Such a transition will fulfill the needs of many parties, including those who want to lengthen the school day. Spreading the learning hours over five days will automatically result in a longer school day, leaving Friday for community activities at the school. One of the sectors which stands to gain from this transition is the religious sector, for whom Friday would become a day for family-oriented activities excluded on Shabbat.

MICHA GOLDMAN, MK,
Deputy Minister of Education,
Culture and Sport

Jerusalem.

CIVIL DISOBEDIENCE

Sir, - Professor Shlomo Avineri ("Stop citing Gandhi and King" - December 29) disingenuously claims civil disobedience is legitimate against "oppressive, non-democratic regimes," but is illegitimate in "democratic societies." A professor of political science should know that Henry Thoreau's *Essay on Civil Disobedience* has inspired many Americans to use this form of protest against their government. It should be obvious to him that civil disobedience can only be used against a ruling power rooted in the values of democracy, even if the ruling power may sometimes act in an undemocratic manner. As George Orwell wrote in his essay on Gandhi, "it is difficult to see how Gandhi's methods could be applied in a country where opponents of the regime disappear in the middle of the night and are never heard of again."

Does Avineri really believe that civil disobedience could have been used against Hitler, Stalin or Khomeini? Does he have any doubts about what Arafat or Assad would do to opponents who engaged in civil disobedience?

In the US, the leaders of a movement like Zo Artzenu may well be charged with applicable misdemeanors, but not with sedition. True democracies like the US tolerate civil disobedience. Professor Avineri and those who think like him have much to learn from the American example.

DR. ROBERT SLATER

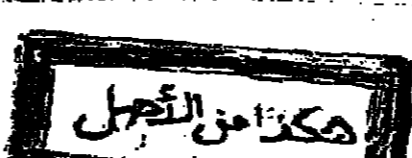
Sha'alv'im.

THE ISRAELI ARAB VOTE

Sir, - I was most distressed to read in your paper that a recent poll has shown that the Israeli Arab vote is likely to prove pivotal in deciding who will be the country's next prime minister. Is there a way for the Arabs of Israel to have basic human rights without determining the fate and destiny of the Jewish People? Did we go through four major wars to now let the Israeli Arabs decide our fate? Will they decide if withdrawal from the Golan will leave us with defensible borders?

MENACHEM GUR

Jerusalem.



Why Ora can't sleep

YOSEF GOELL

IN what can only be termed a curious statement by a cabinet minister, Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir told *Ha'aretz* on January 2 that "The rise in the proportion of poverty is a direct result of the economic policies of the government, to which I am not a partner, and which I have opposed since my first day in the cabinet."

Namir made the statement a few weeks after the publication of the latest figures on poverty, and at the height of the crisis surrounding the closure of the Ouman textile plant in the poverty-stricken Negev development town of Ofakim, which threw several hundred people out of work.

"Ever since the publication of the figures on poverty, I am not the same person; I can find no peace," she said.

Cynics may attribute Namir's emotional outburst to the beginning of the primary season in the Labor Party. I, for one, choose to believe she is sincere. But then I would ask her: "What are you still doing in the Labor Party?"

The problem is not so much sheer poverty - today's Israeli poor are significantly better off than they were in the past - but the rapidly growing gap between the rich and poor, and between the very rich and most of those in the middle.

Recent comparative studies show that, from being one of the most egalitarian societies among modern industrial states about 25 years ago, Israel has become the second-least egalitarian, just above the US, but well below the European free market economies. Israel also shares with America the shame of having the highest proportion of children living in families below the poverty line.

As Namir points out so correctly, this is a result of economic policies intentionally pursued by her own Labor government.

In all fairness, it should be not-

ed that Binyamin Netanyahu's Likud is no different. During the forthcoming election year, we will be inundated ad nauseam with pap from both major parties about bettering the lot of the common man.

But if we examine what these parties did when in power successively over the last 25 years, we will see that they share the blame for creating those large and growing socioeconomic gaps.

THERE ARE, to be sure, dilemmas galore.

Namir noted one of them when she said: "I am not for going back

The labor minister has had little rest since the latest poverty figures were released

to the old ways and concepts. But I cannot accept that an economic policy intended to further economic growth must be based entirely on free markets and on an open economy. These result in unorganized labor, lower wages, and growing gaps between those at the top and the bottom."

No one has an easy solution to the problem of finding a healthy balance between the dictates of continued economic growth, and of a relatively egalitarian distribution of incomes. The problem is that for quite a number of years, the top people in government - from both major parties - couldn't have cared less.

Namir could have added a second dilemma specific to today's Labor Party: how to reconcile the drive for "peace" with the Palestinians and the surrounding Arab world with the desire to ensure a

fair society, which the Labor Party seemed to believe in a long time ago - or at least said it did.

The closure of the Ouman plant in Ofakim is a harbinger of a very dismal immediate future.

Proponents of massive economic aid to the Palestinians have been pushing for the creation of industrial parks on the borders of the Palestinian Autonomy. The object is to provide jobs for the Palestinians.

But those very jobs will be taken away from the textile workers of Ofakim and Dimona, and from low-paid textile and food-processing workers throughout Israel. Some Israeli industrialists have already begun to move some of their "slave-wage" operations to Jordan and Egypt.

None of these problems have easy solutions. The question is: Has anyone with the power to make a difference, either in Labor or the Likud, really tried to find viable solutions? Sadly, the answer is no.

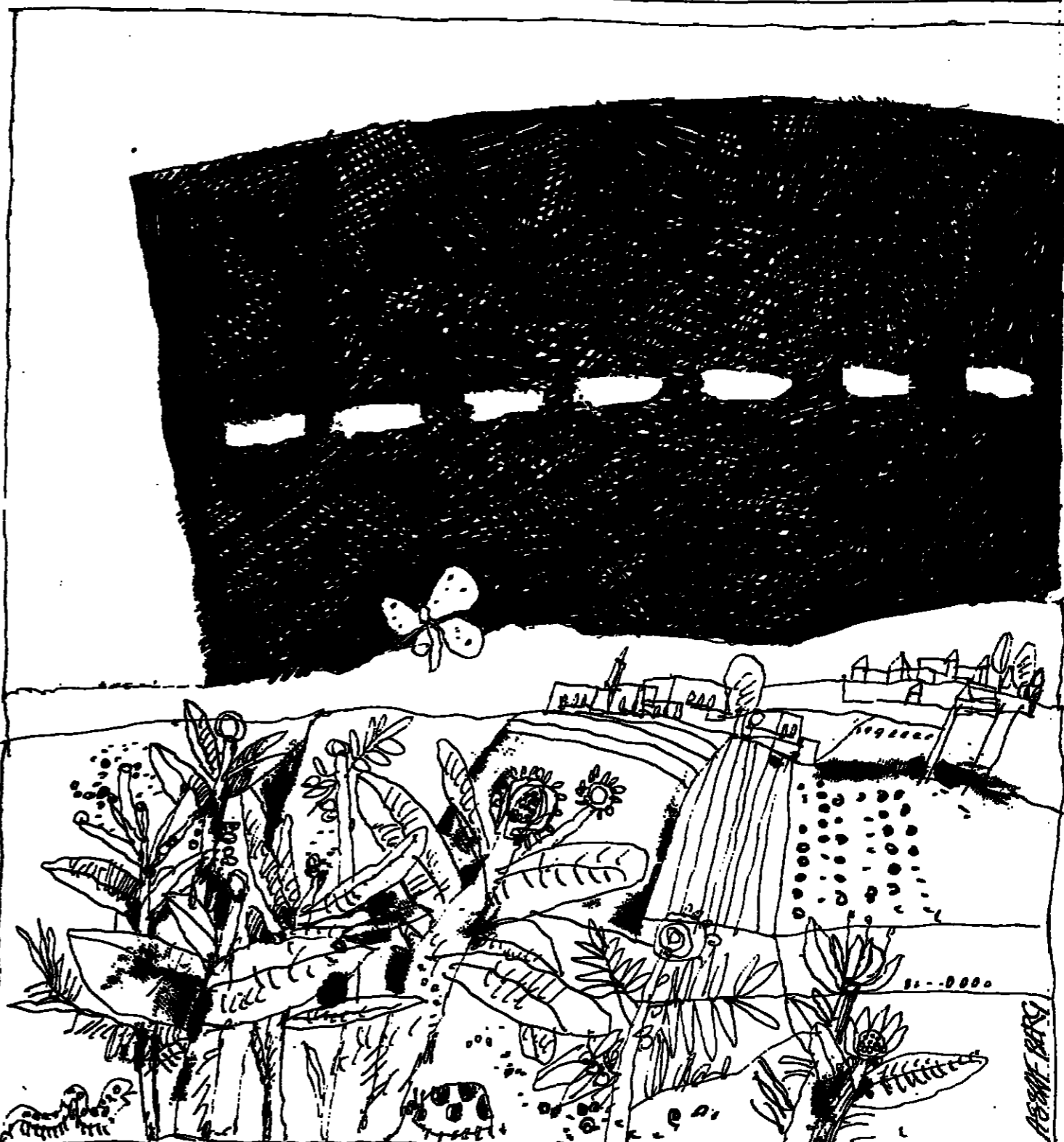
Israeli politics over the past 25 years has revolved so exclusively around the issue of the territories and the Arab-Israeli conflict that issues such as these have not even been relegated to the sidelines; they have been shoved off the political board entirely.

Theoretically, the political parties should be vying with each other to fight for the real socioeconomic interests of the electorate. Yet, with their entrenched vested interests, little or nothing may be expected in this regard from either Labor or the Likud.

I wouldn't hold my breath even when it comes to parties like David Levy's. Levy talks big, but has a record of doing nothing.

And Natan Sharansky's Russian immigrants party has been brainwashed into supporting precisely that free market ideology Laborite Ora Namir so bemoans.

The writer comments on current affairs.



Stop polluting the peace

DAVID NEWMAN

THIS week's cornerstone-laying ceremony for the first section of the Trans-Israel Highway bears little relation to the recent outpouring of concern. Last week's news that three government ministers had requested a reassessment of the need for this highway signals an important juncture in the fight for Israel's environment.

Significantly, it is cabinet ministers and not "just" grassroots demonstrators who have joined the fight for Israel's environment. That environment is under daily threat; the signs are already alarmingly apparent in our rapidly changing landscape.

We visited my brother-in-law recently on his kibbutz in Galilee. Living as we do against the backdrop of the brown sand dunes of the northern Negev, we looked forward to relaxing against the breathtaking view of Lower Galilee and the Netofa water reservoir which are to be seen from the mountaintop kibbutz of Beit Rimon.

But since our previous visit some two years ago, something has happened to change that view. Looking down from the lofty hilltop, our view was met by the gigantic scars of a large industrial zone in the making. Already constructed is the large Phoenicia ceramics plant, operating around the clock, seven days a week, and belching out its smoky pollutants throughout the valley below.

Our view, and that of the residents of this pioneering community, is met by a thick line of smoke sweeping through the valley, leaving its residue in numerous Arab and Jewish settlements.

Asked how this development could have taken place, we were told that there was little alternative. The area under question had

been designated as a priority development area by the government. Providing employment for the local Arab population, previously starved of an equal share in economic resources and investment, had been the overriding argument used against any opposition to the plan.

Similar arguments are already being used with respect to the mass development expected to take place in the new Middle East of the post-conflict era. In a book

objections, but to little avail.

The developers will maintain that their project is being undertaken as an international, and possibly regional, investment in the name of peace. Environmental degradation, they will argue, is but a small price to pay for the social, economic and political benefits that will accrue from the project.

And we, the citizens of Israel who yearn for the future political stability of a full peace agree-

ment, will be lost for a counter-argument.

The cynical use of "peace" terminology will become the weapon for all those who would unthinkingly destroy the little that is left of our environment and its delicate ecological balance.

While we may leave our children a safer political environment, one without wars and existential threats, we face the possibility of bequeathing them, at the same time, an environment devoid of all beauty, bereft of the physical and natural resources required for a healthy life.

WE ARE all partly to blame for this dismissive attitude toward the environment. When it comes to conservation, we are a schizophrenic society.

On the one hand, we teach our children to love the land of their birth. We teach them on trips, and

teach them the name of every rock and flower. It is part of a process of territorial socialization through which they are bonded with the land, laying a claim to its natural beauty.

We similarly educate our citizens in the ways of water conservation, expressing the need to save this valuable but scarce resource without which we could no longer survive in a semi-arid region.

And yet, on the other hand, these environmental values fade into nonexistence when they encounter the actual task of preserving and conserving these scarce resources for future generations.

In our daily lives, we treat the environment with contempt. We litter the roads and hillside with our garbage, we build polluting factories in the name of development, and we waste precious water by washing our cars to an extent few of our European neighbors do. In the name of the Zionist dream, we try to make the desert bloom with lawns which were never intended to grow in semi-arid climates.

If we are not to be too late, we must take on the environmental challenge today. We need to lend support to the growing, but as yet weak "green" lobby. We must find ways to advance the joint causes of peace, social and economic development and regional cooperation without letting the one become the death knell of the other.

The writer teaches in the Department of Geography and Environmental Development and is Director of the Humphrey Center for Social Policy at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev.

'Business yes, therapy no'

CHRISS, it's good to see you again. I love it when you talk tough with me - especially that line about how this is going to be your last visit to Damascus. Ha, ha, ha. You really crack me up sometimes.

Now you listen to me, Mr. Secretary of State: Do you take me for a fool? Do you think I just fell off a watermelon truck from Aleppo?

We both know what keeps pulling you back here. I'm the mosehead you want to mount on your wall. I'm your ticket to a Nobel Peace Prize.

Well, Chris, here I am. If you want me you'll have to come and get me, and it's going to take a few more trips.

Now, Chris, you tell me I have to make a personal, emotional appeal to the Israeli public - a "psychological breakthrough," you called it - just like those bootlickers Sadat, Arafat and Hussein did.

Chris, I'm not the president of Norway. If I were the kind of leader capable of personal, touching and emotional appeals, I never would have survived as ruler here for 27 years.

I've read my Machiavelli, Chris, and he taught that it is better to be feared than loved. Love is something people grant or withdraw according to their whims. But fear, Chris, is like a cold hand resting on your shoulder that you can't remove.

Haven't you seen how my ministers tremble in our meetings? They are terrified of me. But you want me to persuade the Israelis to trust me? Trust - that is such an American concept. Fear, Chris: ruling is about fear. You could use some of that yourself.

But Chris, it's not only my people who are afraid. I am, too. I come from a minority in Syria - the Alawite tribe. The Sunni Moslem majority here watches every move I make. They will pounce on me in a second if I go too far. I think about that constantly.

Haven't you noticed that I never send Alawites to negotiate with you or Israel - only Sunni Moslems and Christians? That's because I want them to be held responsible for any deal.

THOMAS L. FRIEDMAN

Solier's be clear. I am ready to sign a peace treaty with the Israelis in order to get my Golan Heights back. I am ready to give them the security arrangements they need, provided that they give me the same. I am even ready to attend a signing ceremony with Shimon Peres.

But I am not ready to embrace

If Assad could speak candidly, he'd be saying something like this to Warren Christopher when the two meet today

the Israelis or show them any warmth, and I am not ready to open the Syrian economy to their businessmen. You cannot force such a psychological breakthrough from the top. That can only emerge over time.

I want peace, but without any ideological or human reconciliation with the Zionist state.

There is still plenty in it for Peres and his people. A peace treaty with me means an end to the state of war between Israel and its most dangerous enemy. It also means an end to the Arab-Israeli conflict, because if I do a deal with Israel, all the other Arabs, including Saudi Arabia, will fall into line. The Arab world comes with me.

That is a big deal, Chris, and I will sell that deal to my own people in order to get back the Golan Heights, but don't ask me to sell it to the Israelis as well.

To sell this deal to my own people, I need to maintain a high level of fear. To sell this deal to the Israeli people, someone has to soothe their fears. That's not my thing. Peres is good at soothing fears. I'm good at generating them.

Don't confuse our roles. I will deliver Syria; let Peres deliver Israel.

When the Israeli people see what's on the table - peace with Syria and peace with the Arab world - they will eventually come along.

And Peres will come along too, because I will not only deliver him all of these strategic benefits, but I will get him reelected as well. Maybe he'll even win like me - with 99.6 percent of the vote!

You know, Chris, after my last election, one of my aides came to me and said: "Mr. President, you won 99.6 percent of the vote. It means only four-tenths of 1 percent of the Syrian people didn't vote for you. What more could you ask for?" And I said: "Their names." Ha, ha, ha.

So there you have it, Chris. I'm ready to do business with the Israelis - but not therapy. I'm in no hurry, but it looks to me like you and Peres are, so you'll be back, and your room at the Sheraton will be waiting.

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Classic outsider becomes insider

Ami Ayalon's appointment is the latest of a low-profile, no-nonsense security force chief, Steve Rodan reports

YEHUDA Melamed recalls how his commander split his group of sea raiders during a nighttime operation in southern Lebanon in the early 1970s.

The two groups had arranged for their return to the Navy boat at a certain time. Melamed's group arrived on the dot. The second force, headed by commander Ami Ayalon, was missing.

Melamed says his group waited five, then 10 minutes - "a huge amount of time given the time constraints we were under." Then Ayalon's group arrived. The commander ordered his men into the boat and then asked Melamed, a physician, a question.

"He had seen a wounded Lebanese boy and had bandaged him, and he wanted to know whether he'd done it correctly," Melamed says. "That's why he was late."

The anecdote reflects the warmth of the incoming chief of the General Security Service, but the entry by the 50-year-old former OC Navy to replace current head K. means more than a change in personality at the helm. It marks what could be a new era for the service. Despite his lack of intelligence experience, both security sources and several former senior GSS agents say Ayalon's personality is exactly what the service needs.

Quietly, security sources say, a new conception is being introduced into the senior echelons of the IDF and intelligence agencies. Less has become more in a security establishment that over the

past five years has been dominated by media-savvy generals and security chiefs that many critics say made their image a high priority.

"The General Staff today has become probably the most public relations-conscious [staff] in the history of the state," says a senior defense source who does not want to be identified.

THAT TIDE is being rolled back, defense sources say. It started when Amnon Shahak became chief of staff. He immediately lowered his profile in contrast to that of Ehud Barak, who rarely refused an opportunity to sound off to the media.

Shahak appointed Maj.-Gen. Moshe Ya'alon, a novice, as IDF intelligence chief. Like Shahak, Ya'alon was demure, kept out of the spotlight and concentrated on learning his job.

Now comes Ayalon. As Navy commander, he was the least known of the armed service heads. His job was to battle the military bureaucracy that clearly placed the Navy at the bottom of IDF budget priorities. He fought what some defense sources acknowledge was group-think on the capabilities of the Arab armies and used Navy intelligence to argue that Israel's Arab neighbors were planning to make the sea an active military front in any future war.

Ayalon argued that the Navy would be more important after Israeli withdrawal because it would be the only service whose maneuverability at sea would not be significantly af-

ected by a pullback.

His argument was quietly accepted and today the Navy is changing its role from that of a glorified coast guard to a modern force that could play a significant offensive role in future wars. As a result, the Navy is obtaining three German Dolphin submarines and five naval warships from the US, a huge addition to the tiny force.

Defense sources say Ayalon's modesty, penchant for details and ability to administer a major organization are well-suited to the GSS.

"The burden placed on the GSS chief is greater than perhaps on any other person in the country," says MK Eliahu Ben-Elissar, who had long been an intelligence official. "This includes the minister who would be responsible for the GSS. However, I would have wanted someone from the outside coming to the GSS to have had experience in intelligence."

THE CONTRAST between Ayalon and K. is striking. Where Ayalon is unassuming, K. sought the limelight, initiating meetings with selected reporters and editors. Last year, after the capture of a Hamas terrorist ring in the Hebron area, K. held a news conference, the first by a GSS chief.

"We are not in the headlines. That is a testimony to our success," Ayalon said in a recent interview to the IDF weekly, *Bamahaneh*. He headed the Navy for 3½ years before stepping down on January 1.

Where Ayalon is an outsider and a straight shooter, K. was the GSS's ultimate insider who owes his current position to his patron and predecessor, Ya'acov Perry. Where Ayalon is warm, K., reflecting the traits of Perry, is seen as cold and calculating.

Ayalon's personality made him a favorite over other candidates. They in-

cluded the head of IDF Central Command, Maj.-Gen. Ilan Biran, and the prime minister's military secretary, Maj.-Gen. Danny Yatom, who had turned down the offer in the past.

Most important for Shahak and Prime Minister Shimon Peres, defense sources say, Ayalon will seek to redress Israel's security agenda. As GSS chief, K. placed more resources into monitoring the radical right in his belief that it constituted a major threat to the peace process.

Ayalon is said to advocate that the GSS must focus on combating Arab terrorism. Defense sources believe that over the next few years, the GSS will place more of the responsibility for monitoring the extreme right-wing in police hands. But that intention depends largely on the recommendations of the Shamgar Commission investigating the assassination of Rabin.

Ayalon's priorities made him Yitzhak Rabin's favorite before he reluctantly agreed to appoint K. as GSS chief. Rabin was said to have disliked K.'s high profile and particularly his warnings of a right-wing plot to assassinate government leaders.

Perhaps Ayalon's best asset, defense sources say, is that he has no personal interests in the current fighting in the GSS. Since 1987, when Perry entered office, the agency has been characterized by an us-against-them mentality. "Us" was Perry's coterie of young GSS followers who knew that pleasing the high-profile boss was the best way to advance in the service.

Perry's contemporaries in the GSS, the older hard-bitten Arabists, fared least well under the system. They were forced out one by one as Perry made it clear that they would not advance in their career. By the time K. assumed office, close to a dozen GSS senior agents had resigned.



Defense sources say Ayalon's modesty, penchant for details and ability to administer a major organization are well-suited to the GSS. (IDF Spokesman)

What's needed now, former GSS officials say, is a man who stresses hard work over camaraderie to steer the GSS back on course after years of drifting.

"As it stands, this is not one of the golden eras in the organizational aspect of the service," Yisrael Shai, a former GSS official, says.

Profile in courage: Commando Ayalon on Green Island

IN an interview with *The Jerusalem Post* several years ago, Adm. Ami Ayalon displayed a reticence that in retrospect seems appropriate for the man named this week as the new head of the General Security Service.

The interview dealt with Ayalon's role in the attack in 1969 by a naval commando force on Green Island, a fortified Egyptian position in the Red Sea. The admiral was clearly uncomfortable talking to a reporter, particularly about himself. An adjutant sat stiffly in the room, adding to the formality of the occasion.

Ayalon had a lithe build and a youngish, outdoorsman's face that did not quite belong to the large office he now occupied, reflecting rank and authority. He had spent much of his career with the underwater commandos and it seemed as if he would have been more at home suited up in a dark frogman's outfit than in his dress whites.

Slowly, he related his part in the story, a role which won him the nation's highest award for bravery. He spoke at first in sparse sentences that cloaked more than they revealed but as he began to relive the moment the telling became more animated.

The event had taken place during the War of Attrition along the Suez Canal. The Egyptians, recovering from the debacle of the Six Day War, were laying down massive artillery barrages daily on the Bar-Lev Line and launching commando raids across the canal with increasing boldness.

After a particularly damaging raid which cost Israel seven dead and a number of prisoners, defense minister Moshe Dayan ordered an appropriate response. The target chosen was Green Island, a fortress built by the British on a coral outcropping a mile off the Egyptian coast near the southern approaches to the canal.

The former Navy chief earned respect and a medal for his role in a major operation during the War of Attrition, Abraham Rabinovich writes

A compact 100-meter-long fortress bristling with guns and protected by heavy artillery on the Egyptian mainland nearby, it was as difficult a target as could be chosen. Antiaircraft guns would make any helicopter assault suicidal, while boats attempting to reach the island with assault troops would likely be blown out of the water before they reached it. It was decided to use naval commandos who would swim underwater to the island and attack at night.

AYALON WAS one of the young officers on the assault team's second squad. The first

squad's task was to emerge silently from the sea and overcome the Egyptian sentry posts on the water's edge. The second squad would then scale the roof of the fortress where the antiaircraft guns and other heavy armament were emplaced. That is where the main battle would be fought.

Other commando squads would follow. With the fortress's heavy guns neutralized, boats would bring ashore fighters from an elite reconnaissance unit to finish the job.

The attackers achieved surprise and quickly established a beachhead. The second squad raced forward with Ayalon in the

lead. In the brief time it had had to prepare the operation, the attack force experimented in swimming underwater with a collapsible ladder to be used in negotiating the 2.5 meters to the roof, but it had proven awkward swimming with it over a long distance. Instead, a tall squad member named Jacob was designated to serve as a ladder. Ami Ayalon was to be the first to mount. Climbing onto Jacob's shoulders, he cautiously lifted his head over the edge of the roof.

There were two light antiaircraft gun positions nearby, one to the right and one to the left. The positions were surrounded by

concrete walls behind which sentries could be made out. A heavy machine gun covered both. Once he climbed onto the roof, Ayalon would be totally exposed. He pulled a smoke grenade from a pouch and hurled it toward the machine gun, but the grenade failed to explode. When Ayalon raised his head to see what had happened, his face was cut by ricocheting shrapnel.

Recovering quickly, he threw another grenade, but this too failed to explode. The water pressure at the depths to which the heavily loaded men had descended during their underwater approach to the island had rendered many of the grenades inoperable. If Ayalon was to make his move it would have to be without cover.

TAKING A deep breath and counting to three, he vaulted onto the roof and headed for his target, the gun to the left. His

partner, a young commando named Zali, was right behind him, scrambling over Jacob's back onto the roof. The pair threw grenades into the gun position. This time the grenades exploded. The commandos entered firing their Uzis, killing the two Egyptians inside. Another team mounted the roof behind them and took the right-hand gun position.

The boats carrying the second wave were delayed and the small number of commandos who had reached the roof came under mounting pressure. A burst from the machine gun severed two fingers on the hand of Zali, a talented fiftist.

According to the detailed plan drawn up before the attack, the pair were to remain in the gun position until the second wave had passed them. However, the delay in the reinforcement's arrival and the murderous fire being delivered by the Egyptians prompted Ayalon to continue forward. "Can you shoot?" he asked his wounded partner. The answer was affirmative.

The two men bounded forward to an empty position closer to the machine gun. From there they threw grenades that finally silenced the gun, but not before Ayalon was wounded a second time when grenade fragments cut into his leg.

By the time the second wave reached the roof, half the men in the first wave had been killed or wounded. Ayalon, who had remained in the forefront of the battle, was wounded a third time, this time in his hand and throat. He lost consciousness briefly but regained it and bandaged his wounds himself.

Leaning on a comrade, he managed to make his way back to a rescue boat. He would receive the Medal of Valor for his performance on Green Island.

When the Yom Kippur War broke out, Ayalon was in command of a patrol boat squadron in the Red Sea. One night early in the war he discovered an anchorage on the Egyptian coast filled with fishing vessels about to transport soldiers and supplies across the Gulf of Suez to Sinai.

Entering with three boats, he made 10 sweeps of the small harbor despite accurate fire from the shore. The patrol boats fired into the massed Egyptian small craft until ammunition was exhausted. Nineteen boats were sunk, and secondary explosions indicated that many were carrying explosives.

Ayalon would lead numerous commando raids against Palestinian targets along the Lebanese coast, which may offer him some sense of connection to his new occupation.

Home is the sailor, home from the seas. But for the near future, at least, Ami Ayalon will be swimming in waters murkier than any he has known until now.

Committee of University Presidents Israel's Universities Announce

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Registration forms must reach the National Institute for Testing and Evaluation by February 28, 1996.

Registration kits, in all languages, are on sale at university bookstores and Steimatzky bookstores or may be purchased by sending a request and check for NIS 24, by mail, to the National Institute for Testing and Evaluation (see address above). The registration kits include comprehensive instruction booklets containing general information, parts of tests with explanations for independent study, and a complete previous exam for practice and for calculating approximate test scores.

Psychometric exams will be held in several cities in Europe, the United States and Latin America during April - May 1996 (depending on number of applicants). Registration for the exams in the United States and Europe will end on March 15, 1996, and for Latin America on April 19, 1996. Applicants should contact the Coordinator of Overseas Exams, at the Institute, at the above address, or by telephone.



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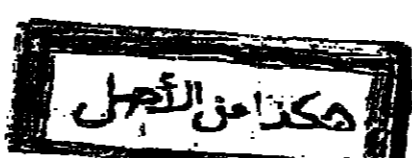


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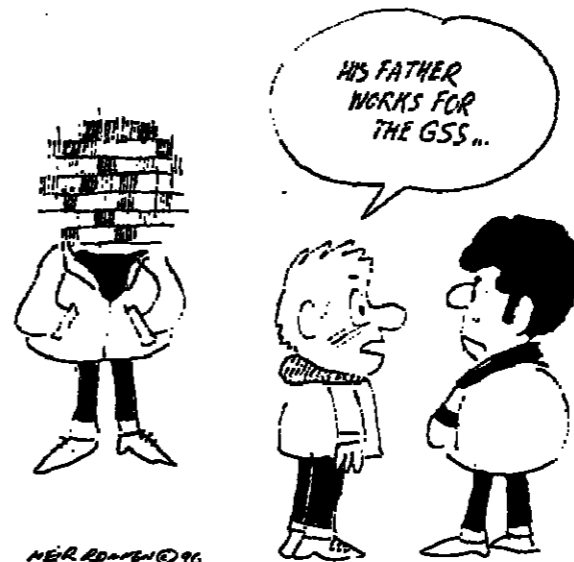


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More quiet on the terrorist front

The PA's ability to neutralize Islamic terrorism has led security officials to be optimistic, Steve Rodan reports



Ayyash killing, Hamas will lose credibility. Abu Nasser, whose assessment is echoed by both Palestinian and Israeli security sources, says Hamas leaders will simply allow Iz-zadin Kassam to take its revenge for the assassination of Ayyash without announcing responsibility. Any attack on Israel would then be attributed to individuals without connection to Hamas.



According to Palestinian security sources, GSS agents tracked Ayyash down by shadowing his mother, seen here with a picture of Ayyash and holding his two-year-old son Basa. (David Zilber)

Ayyash killing: Innovation, intelligence at its best

THE liquidation last week of Yihye Ayyash, the country's most wanted Palestinian terrorist, is the direct result of excellent intelligence and operational-technological innovation.

It is widely assumed that Israel's security services were behind the killing. If this indeed is the case, it might have been the work of the General Security Service (GSS).

Technologically, the innovation lies in the sophisticated method of concealing the explosives in the cellular phone which blew off Ayyash's head. Because only a small amount of explosives could be installed inside the phone - Palestinian sources estimated that 50 grams was used - it had to be sharply penetrative and highly effective to ensure his immediate death.

Since Ayyash was extremely cautious, one can assume the executors had to bear in mind the possibility he might check the phone before using it. However, there was nothing new in the fact that a remote-controlled radio signal was used to activate the explosives.

The murder of most wanted Palestinian terrorist Yihye Ayyash was an intelligence coup, Yossi Melman writes

It has been used both by Israeli intelligence and the PLO's security apparatus. In 1995, a Gaza-based Egyptian intelligence operative who was a Palestinian infiltrator was killed upon opening a parcel he received in the mail. Fifteen years later an agricultural attaché at the Israeli Embassy in London died as he opened an envelope. Israel retaliated by sending a parcel to Bassam Abu Sharif, a senior operative in George Habash's PLFP and a future spokesman for Yasser Arafat and a supporter of peace with Israel.

precise intelligence was gathered about his daily and nightly habits. The safe house which harbored him was discovered.

According to Palestinian security sources, GSS agents tracked him down by shadowing his mother. The agents allowed her to meet with her son and generated disinformation which portrayed the mother-son encounters as the GSS's security failure.

Such disinformation only helped to increase Ayyash's self-confidence that he was untouchable.

During the long months of delicate surveillance, Israeli agents managed to recruit several Palestinian collaborators who led them to Ayyash, according to Palestinian sources.

Finally, the lethal phone was handed over to the target by one of them, probably a rich Gazan contractor. He likely didn't know the exact nature of the device and was told that only listening and monitoring instruments had been installed inside it.

The lessons which can be drawn from the operation are very clear.

After the assassination of prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, some commentators suggested the blow to the morale, psyche and operational capabilities of the GSS were lethal.

Yet, the GSS, if it was indeed behind the assassination, proved two months later it still was a professional, highly skillful organization which can sustain failures and regroup itself. One can assume the same professionalism will be shown to overcome the damage caused by the resignation of GSS head "K."

YOU could see them at virtually every shopping mall, bus depot, airport or crowded thoroughfare in the country's major cities: special police units armed with semi-automatic rifles on high alert for a terrorist attack.

But despite the threats of Islamist retaliation in the wake of the assassination of Hamas bomber Yihye Ayyash, the most wanted Palestinian terrorist in Israel's history, Israeli security officials are confident that 1996 will be quieter than any other year during the past decade. Officials say the trend began in May 1994 when the Palestinian Authority was established.

"We see a continued decrease in terrorist incidents during this year, but not necessarily a decline in the lethality of those attacks, including bus bombings," a senior security source says.

The officials, whose conclusions were part of the national intelligence assessment presented to the cabinet on Sunday, say the decline in terrorism seen in 1995 will continue throughout this year as the PA increases its effectiveness in battling Islamic terrorism and bolsters its security cooperation with Israel.

"The PA is confiscating weapons, arresting Hamas people everywhere, not only in Gaza and Jericho, but in Judea and Samaria," a senior security source says.

"It has succeeded in creating rifts within the organization. This has influenced Hamas's behavior and has decreased its motivation."

In 1995, Hamas and Islamic Jihad each launched four suicide bomb attacks against Israeli targets. The outgoing head of the General Security Service, K., said 39 people were killed and 223 were wounded in the bombings.

Some security officials who were highly skeptical of the PA's

methods of dominating Hamas and Islamic Jihad now privately admit they were wrong. The officials had long urged that the heads of Palestinian Preventive Security - Jibril Rajoub in the West Bank and Mohammed Dahlan in Gaza - learn from the GSS, which battled terrorism with massive arrests, brutal interrogations and a high-profile offensive to demoralize potential Palestinian attackers.

Moreover, PA chief Yasser Arafat has co-opted key Hamas activists with the promise of jobs and an opportunity to wield influence within the authority. As Israeli security officials see it, Arafat, in the wake of the US and Israel reproach, has toned down his call for jihad over the last few months. "There are people around him [Arafat] who make sure he watches his words carefully," a senior security source says.

ARAFAT'S METHODS have led to the isolation of Hamas's armed wing from its patrons both within and outside the territories. Despite their maintenance of weapons and militants, Hamas's Izzadin Kassam wing has been placed in limbo. The organization's political leaders have convinced the military wing that any attack against Israel would only delay the sought-after Israeli re-

deployment from West Bank cities, particularly from Hebron, the largest Hamas stronghold in the area. As for Islamic Jihad, the sources say, the assassination of Fathi Shkaki has left the organization in disarray. Unlike Hamas, Jihad obtains its support largely from abroad, mainly Iran, and Shkaki's successor, Ramadan Shalah, who spent years as a professor in the US, has had difficulty in maintaining the backing of Teheran.

Both Israeli and Palestinian security sources don't expect a significant change in Hamas's current restraint in the wake of the Ayyash slaying. They are on alert for revenge attacks from Hamas but expect a limited response. One assessment is that Hamas will try to kidnap IDF soldiers from Area B, where both Palestinian and Israeli forces are permitted to operate.

Wadie Abu Nasser, a researcher at Tel Aviv University who has steady contact with the PA and Islamic leadership, says security officials in the PA view the Ayyash killing as the elimination of a nagging problem that it could not resolve. "I'm sure the PA is not very sad but they could not directly be involved in the killing without hurting the authorities well," he says.

Abu Nasser says Hamas's political activists will remain cautious. They will not announce the end of their understanding with the authority. They made a temporary halt in attacks on Israel from PA-controlled areas.

"Hamas is in a dilemma," Abu Nasser says. "If they cancel the agreement, the PA will not forgive them and make it difficult. If they will not react to the

As a result, the assessment by both Israeli and Palestinian security officials is that the joint battle against terrorism will continue until at least after the Israeli elections. They say Arafat does not want a repeat of 1988, when on the eve of Knesset elections, Fatah terrorists firebombed an Israeli bus, killing a mother and three of her children. The bombing was widely seen as having foiled an expected Labor Party victory and instead led to a national unity government.

Some analysts say the results of the Israeli elections might determine whether the Islamic terrorists are reactivated. "If Israel insists on its demands on Jerusalem, the abrogation of the Palestinian covenant, then 1996 will be a year of a deteriorating situation that will escalate into unprecedented violence," says Yiga Carmon, the counterterrorism adviser to prime ministers Yitzhak Shamir and Yitzhak Rabin.

Yonah Alexander, a consultant on counterterrorism to Congress and professor at George Washington University, goes further. He dismisses the assessments that Hamas and Islamic Jihad will continue their restraint.

Echoing the assessments of security sources in Israel and in Europe, Alexander says Hamas has used the current lull in terrorism to forge links with Islamic militants in Europe, Asia and South America. This includes heightened cooperation with the Iranian-backed Hizbullah in Lebanon. "I have no doubt that Hamas will take revenge," says Alexander, who is now giving lectures in Israel. "The question is not if, but when and where. That revenge won't only be here but abroad as well."

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Conflict created a new reality for the region

NEXT to the end of the Cold War, the Gulf war had the most significant impact on the processes leading to the current Middle East peace negotiations.

While the dissolution of the Soviet Union had a clear and unequivocal result in the region - it deprived the Arabs of the Soviet strategic umbrella and thus returned the Arab-Israeli conflict to its regional dimension - the Gulf war's repercussions were more complex and thus call for a more careful and nuanced scrutiny.

Iraq's invasion of Kuwait and the vigorous American reaction to it - after some initial hesitation - coincided with the waning of the Cold War and the Soviet Union's disintegration. On January 15, 1991, the Soviet Union was still there - but barely. It is true that in the last moves to avoid US military intervention, some high ranking Soviet officials, most prominently Yevgeny Primakov (who was appointed the Russian foreign minister on Tuesday) the Kreshin's top Middle East expert, tried desperately to save Saddam Hussein from the consequences of his own policies - but to no avail.

Moreover, it was clear that if Iraq still could have depended on a robust Soviet Union, then the US would find it difficult to marshal the impressive coalition that ultimately chased Iraq out of Kuwait.

In this context, it also appeared that the Gulf war was the ultimate defeat for the old dream of Arab unity - premised on a successful challenge to Western power - which had been made into such a powerful political and ideological weapon by Egypt's Abdel Nasser. Arab unity, and Arab power, turned out to be a pipe dream: rather than uniting them against what was considered the Arabs' main enemy - the West - the Gulf war became an arena in which Arabs were fighting Arabs, and one Arab state even called upon the US to extricate it from aggression and threats by fellow Arabs.

To have the sovereignty of an Arab country reestablished against the invading army of another Arab country by the military might of the US was thus the ultimate humiliation for the vision of Arab unity of power. Nasserism was finally shown to be what it really was - a self-aggrandizing, blown-up ideology, utterly out of touch with the realities of Middle Eastern politics.

The PLO was cut down to size even more. Arafat's public em-

Arab unity, Soviet aid and PLO power were regional concerns forever changed by the war, Shlomo Avineri writes

brace of Saddam Hussein immediately after the latter's occupation of Kuwait was, without a doubt, one of the PLO leader's major political blunders. One can only guess what led him to this colossal mistake. It is conceivable that he saw in the Iraqi *Blitzkrieg* against Kuwait that historical moment many Palestinians have been waiting for: the emergence of a new Nasser, nay, a new Saladin, finally pushing overboard the weak, US-supported conservative Arab regimes leading to that kind of Arab unity which would make the ultimate confrontation with Israel possible.

It was not to be. Not only was Iraq expelled from Kuwait and the US position in the region greatly enhanced, but Arafat also

Nasserism was finally shown to be what it really was: out of touch with Middle Eastern politics.

found himself cast out of the Arab consensus, virtually isolated and put into the Arab political doghouse. Saudi subsidies to the PLO were cut, Kuwait eventually expelled Palestinian residents, and Arafat, once a symbol of Arab unity, found himself considered a traitor by much of the Arab world.

It was this weaker and much chastened Arafat who then had to agree to the humiliating conditions of Palestinian representation at Madrid and eventually to the even more humiliating condi-

tions, from a Palestinian perspective, of the Oslo agreements. No counter pressure from a no longer existing Soviet side could offset this utter hegemony of the US in the region.

If for many Arabs and Palestinians Arafat appears today to be operating under a virtual Israeli protectorate, this is not so far from the truth, if one bears in mind what the initial PLO position has been and that the PLO accepted a modality - autonomy - which it had previously rejected.

THOUGH MANY Israelis do not see it this way, many Palestinians do, and this perception is also part of the new, post-Gulf war reality. That the PLO is today dependent on US arms handed out sparingly and Israel's friends on Capitol Hill functioning as a lobby for this assistance to the Palestinian Authority is a far cry from what the Palestinians were dreaming about when they likened their struggle against Israel to the Algerian war of independence against the French.

On the Israeli side, the Gulf war had a similarly complex outcome. On the one hand, it greatly enhanced Israel's position because of the utter collapse of Arab solidarity and the weakening of the PLO. It was, after all, the first time that the US intervened in the Middle East conflict with all its military power - and it was one of Israel's bitterest enemies, Saddam Hussein, whose power was greatly diminished by this intervention.

Even if one regrets the US's hesitation to conclude the Gulf war with a decisive blow that would finally crush Saddam, and even if one has legitimate doubts about the efficacy of the UN-controlled regime imposed on Iraq's missile and non-conventional weapons capability, today's Iraq is a truncated country - with a virtual Kurdish mini-state in the north, with its economy barely surviving and with its military capability greatly diminished. A major enemy of Israel has been drastically defeated, though it is a pity that he was not totally eliminated when he should have been.

On the other hand, the Iraqi missile attacks against Israeli civilian targets during the Gulf war brought home to many Israelis, both experts and laymen, a crucial vulnerability in Israel's defensive posture which cannot be overlooked. All of a sudden, it became clear that Israel's real security concerns cannot be solved by control over the territories captured in 1967; when addressing Israel's real security concerns, these territories are irrelevant.

The dangers to Israel on a strategically existential level do not come from Palestinian terrorism, nor can they be answered by territorial control over Nablus or Hebron. Under the conditions of modern technological warfare, it is missiles and non-conventional weapons, operated from hundreds if not thousands of kilometers away, which pose the real danger to Israel, not snipers in Kalkilya or even tanks on the Golan Heights.

It is these issues that have to be answered, and territorial control is not the answer. An Israel greatly strengthened by the outcome of the Gulf war and the demise of the Soviet Union could now, perhaps for the first time, address the overall issues of its security without being exclusively fixated on questions of territory.

There are obvious paradoxes in this new situation, for Israelis and Palestinians alike. But had it not been for the Gulf war, then the Oslo agreements, the peace treaty with Jordan and the whole ordering of political alliances in the Middle East would have been unthinkable. Little did Saddam Hussein imagine such consequences would result from his failed attempt to conquer Kuwait; however, history is full of such unintended results.

The war, a professor of political science at the Hebrew University, is former director-general of the Foreign Ministry.

The Gulf war in review:

Five years after 'the war that we'd like to forget,' Larry Derfner takes a look at the public and private changes that have taken place

IT'S not by accident that we've tried to forget the Gulf war - we're really somewhat ashamed and embarrassed by it," said Dr. Reuven Gal, head of the Israel Institute for Military Studies and a former IDF chief psychologist.

"So many of us ran from danger, quite hysterically, and at the end of the day there were not that many casualties or even that much destruction," Gal continued. "We kept psychoanalyzing ourselves from morning until night. We had to count on American troops to bring the Patriots to defend us. And we sat like fools in our sealed rooms wearing those gas masks. We were passive, and we've tried to suppress our collective memory of it."

By now, the sociology of the Gulf war has become a set of clichés: This was Israel's first war in which the home front turned into the only front. Men did not go off to war, but rather stayed at home with no role other than comforting their wives and children.

The Gulf war's hero was not a commando or battlefield general, but the IDF spokesman, Nahman Shai, who was saluted for his calm, confident manner while telling the radio-listening public when they could come out of their sealed rooms. This was the war when the fighting nation of Israel came to resemble Diaspora Jews of past wars - fleeing, cowering, helpless, afraid of being gassed. And like most clichés, the clichés of the Gulf war are true.

Five years after the forgotten war, there are few traces left. The damaged buildings have been reconstructed. (As of December 31, 1995, the Income Tax and Property Tax Commission paid out NIS 236,631,310 on 15,259 property damage claims.) Most people have probably scraped the last of the masking-tape stains from their window sills. Few are still likely to feel that Pavlovian catch in their stomachs upon hearing an ambulance siren.

Mainly it was the families of the eight Israelis who died as a direct result of the war - one from a Scud that crashed his Ramat Gan ceiling on top of him, the rest from heart attacks brought on by panic or from suffocation because they forgot to remove the plug from their gas masks - who were deeply, permanently scarred.

Gal said that for the great majority of people, the psychological trauma of the war has long since receded. But for the thousands who got to know the Scuds at very close range, the



The war's hero was IDF Spokesman Nahman Shai who was saluted for his calm, confident manner while telling the radio-listening public when they could leave their sealed rooms. (Joel Fishman)

memory of the war is still far too vivid.

AT THIS physical level, the 39 Scuds fired at Israel changed the look of whole neighborhoods. Because of Saddam Hussein, Israel's civil defense and even its building construction codes are different. Even if most Israelis have put the Gulf war behind them, the war left its mark on Israel.

Above all, it left its mark on south Tel Aviv, specifically Ezra and the Hatikva Quarter, two of the city's poorest neighborhoods. Ezra was hit in the first barrage of Scuds at 2 a.m. on Friday, January 18; Hatikva was smashed the following morning at 7. Haifa suffered relatively little damage from the Scuds, Ramat Gan much more, but south Tel Aviv got the worst of it.

Today Ezra and Hatikva look better and brighter than they've ever looked. A metal sculpture of a winged figure stands on the grounds of Beit Dani Cultural Center where the Scud fell in Hatikva. On adjoining Rehov Hatikva, the sidewalk has been repaved in red brick. The houses that were damaged look solidly rebuilt, painted in white and pastels,

with concrete walls in front and colorful iron gates. Here and there stand houses spared by the missiles; they look as leprosy and ready for condemnation as ever.

"There were people who joked that they wanted to put up a statue to honor Saddam Hussein. There were others who said: 'I have no luck - why didn't the Scud fall on my house?'" recalled Shlomo Maslawi, a Tel Aviv city councilman and long-time community activist in Hatikva. He added, though, that many residents remain bitter to this day because they didn't get the compensation they deserved.

"The old people and the poor people didn't know how to demand their rights, while the stronger ones did. Some people tried to cheat on their claims, so the authorities - Mas Rechush [the Tax Commission], the Tel Aviv Municipality, the Housing Ministry - became suspicious and ended up turning away many people whose claims were genuine," Maslawi said.

The first direct hit of the war landed in an empty lot on Ezra's Rehov Givolim. There are now benches and lampposts on the street, sidewalks where there were none before, and the old rebuilt houses look almost like new suburban cottages, minus the red tile roofs. But many residents remain dissatisfied.

"Look around - the, don't clean up around here, they just did a little superficial fix-up to show the tourists, and then forgot about us again," one homeowner said.

In the house at 10 Rehov Givolim, about 30 meters from where the Scud fell, an agitated Ruth Ezra echoed what Maslawi said about how the strong got compensation and the weak got screwed.

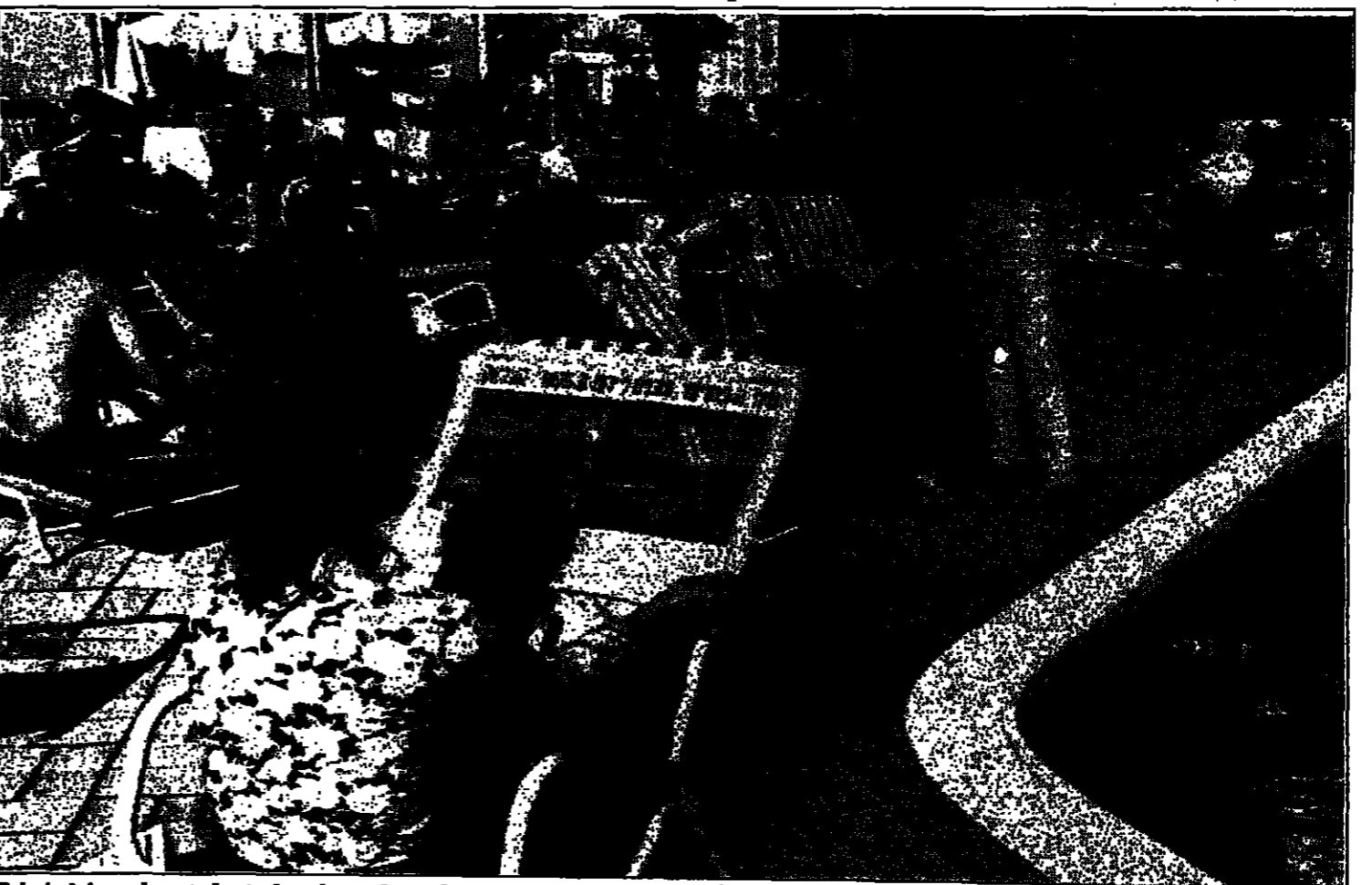
The government rebuilt her living-room wall that had been blown out, painted and patched the whole house, and paid her for her smashed stereo, TV and other appliances - but they didn't rebuild the concrete wall that used to divide her property from the neighbor's.

"They put this chain-link fence up, and now I have to look at the garbage in the next yard," she fumed.

Asked if she still suffered any trauma from the war, she laughed and said, "Trauma? I'm still traumatized about this fence."

There seems to be a number of hidden personal tragedies from the war. Ayala Toubi's mother is not on the list of people who died as a result of the Scuds. But Toubi said that the Scud which fell near her mother's home in Hatikva "drove her crazy." Afterward she couldn't bear to be in her apartment; she always wanted to get out. Evidently she had a stroke right after the Scud fell. Later on she had eight more, and died a year afterwards.

IN THE weeks after the war, about 50 south Tel Aviv residents whose homes were hit received treatment for post-traumatic stress disorder at Kupat Holim Clalir's Tel Aviv Community Mental Health Center, said Dr. Uri Muller, director of the adult outpatient clinic there. Today fewer than 10 still come in. But for two and three years after the war, it



Tel Avivians boasted at the time about how clever they were to flee to Eilat; now, nobody admits it. (Andre Bruttman)

The 'egotistical' exodus from Area A

TENS of thousands of citizens from "Area A" - Tel Aviv and its immediate surroundings, the area which was most vulnerable to Scuds - took to the road during the Gulf war. They filled the hotels of Jerusalem, or stayed with family and friends in the hinterlands, and clogged the freeways commencing to and from work.

It was hard to argue against their decision. The only fighting Israelis had to do in the war was to keep the kids calm. After the first week of the war, people saw televised shots of near-empty buildings destroyed by missiles and reasoned that if all the tenants had stayed home, more would have been injured or even killed.

And if gas or biological weapons came Area A's way, there would be mass death. "Why give Saddam five targets?" they asked themselves, and loaded the family, clothes and supplies into the car. Ha'ir, the hip Tel Aviv weekly newspaper, led the retreat. In addition to running numerous articles in favor of leaving town, the paper conducted an admittedly unscientific, random check of homes

in the city midway into the war and found that 44% had been vacated. (The actual figure was almost certainly much lower.) On a now-famous front page, Ha'ir dummed up a road sign with an arrow pointing to the preferred out-of-town destination: "Inalah [Mommy]."

Not everyone was amused. Shlomo "Chich" Lahat, then mayor of Tel Aviv, said that except for mothers and children, people who left the city were "deserters." It cost him in popularity, but he stuck to his opinion.

In a telephone interview on Tuesday Lahat, approaching 70, was as combative as ever.

"They were super-deserters," he said. "They acted like Jews acted for 2,000 years - like refugees. It was a disgrace."

Lahat acknowledged the exodus from Tel Aviv and its environs undoubtedly saved life and limb. But no matter, he said - it weakened the national spine, broadcast cowardice to Saddam Hussein, and set a woeful precedent.

He blamed the country's leadership for having failed to back up people's morale.

More than a few civilians fled from Jerusalem during the War of Independence, and from border settlements in the terrorist incursions of the 1950s, Gelber noted, but these were exceptions to the rule. The Gulf war was the Israeli war in which heading for the hills - or the desert - became an approved mass movement.

"People were bragging on television about how they had left, about how good it felt to be in Eilat," Gelber recalled. "They

turned escape into an ideology, and those who stayed in Tel Aviv were made into suckers."

Relatively few Haifa residents left town, Gelber said. He blamed the mass flight from Tel Aviv on the city's "egotistical, 'now-is' culture. There it's 'every man for himself.'"

Many of those who fled their homes won't admit it today, said Dr. Reuven Gal, head of the Israel Institute for Military Studies and former IDF chief psychologist. Though he was reluctant to judge individuals and families who left, Gal said that the cumulative effect of their actions was harmful.

"If you remember the trials people withstood during the early Zionist immigrations in this century, during the malaria epidemics, during the War of Independence, in the immigrant transit camps, in the periods of economic austerity, then it's impossible to escape the conclusion that we used to be more resilient and stubborn than we are now," he said. "The reaction during the Gulf war just added one more component to this." L.D.

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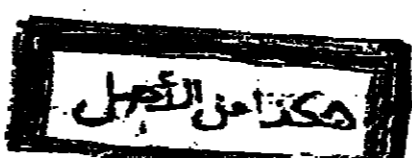
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Our homes in the front line

It was not uncommon to find people "who went into a panic when they heard sirens, or heard brakes squeal, or even when it rained - it was raining during the Gulf war," Muller explained.

Ramat Gan and south Tel Aviv each saw some 1,700 of its residents relocated to hotels for as long as two months because their homes were left uninhabitable. But precisely because they were poorer, in general, than the bombed-out residents in Ramat Gan, the people in Hatikva and Ezra were less equipped to rebound from their ordeal.

"People with higher economic status and higher education tend to have higher self-confidence, more personal resources. They can say, 'My home's been damaged, now it's a matter of doing what has to be done to fix it.' But people in south Tel Aviv didn't have these resources; they felt their homes were all they'd lost everything," Muller explained.

For all Israelis, even if they lived hundreds of miles from ground zero in Tel Aviv, Ramat Gan or Hatikva, one of the toughest dilemmas of the war was whether to stay in the sealed room or dash for the basement bomb shelter. They received mixed signals from their leaders. Then-prime minister Yitzhak Shamir said

in a television interview that when the siren sounded, he went into his sealed room. On the other hand, then-MK Yitzhak Rabin announced that he trotted down the stairs of his Ramat Aviv apartment building to the shelter.

IDF orders were to keep to the sealed room because if the Scuds carried gas warheads, the gas would flow down and possibly inundate the shelters. As it turned out, all of the Scuds had conventional warheads, and people who followed the rules were left terribly vulnerable.

Since the war, a "protected room" with thick concrete walls and a reinforced window, which can stand up to bomb blasts and seal out gas, must be built in new housing. (One such room is required for every four apartments.)

Col. Yori Sofrin, head of the IDF Home Front Command's Civil Protection Division, said that if another missile war occurs, people without protected rooms would be told to go to basement shelters only if they had quick, easy access to them. Civil defense orders would also depend on assessments of the enemy's nonconventional weapons and willingness to use them.

Asked what the civil defense orders would

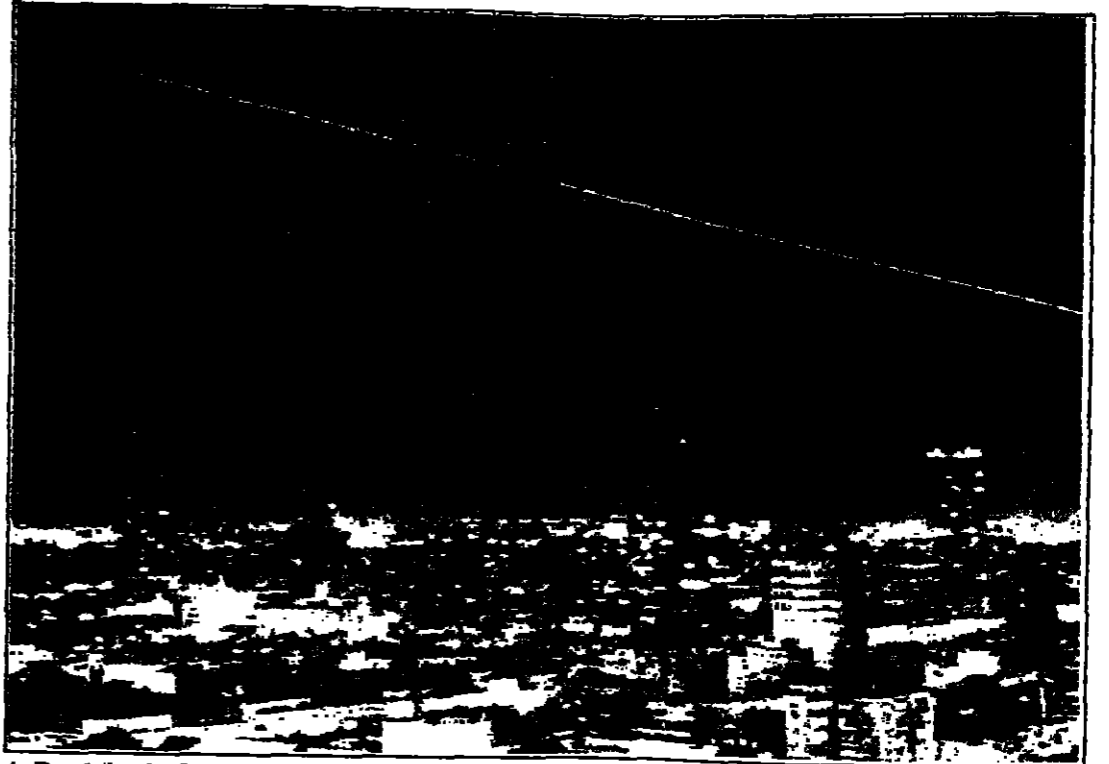
be if an exact replica of the Gulf war broke out now, Sofrin replied, "I think that if the war developed in the same way, the instructions would be given the same way."

After the war, State Comptroller Miriam Ben-Porat reported that random testing showed many of the gas masks distributed during the war would have been useless against gas. The IDF, however, insisted the masks were reliable. Without referring to this dispute, Sofrin noted that virtually all Israelis have since been issued new gas masks.

If the next war comes, infants will have it easier - instead of squirming like they did, cut off from their parents in the Gulf war-issue, crib-like sealed units, infants will wear protective suits and masks that will allow their parents to hold them.

One of the most annoying foul-ups of the war - sirens that could not be heard, or which went off accidentally - should be fully corrected within the year, Sofrin said. All sirens are being replaced by louder ones which can also carry live or recorded broadcasts, and which have state-of-the-art controls to prevent false alarms.

In small ways, away from public view, Israel's post-Gulf war adjustment period continues.



A Patriot missile streaks across the Tel Aviv sky in pursuit of a Scud missile. 'With all his Scuds, Saddam didn't conquer any territory,' researcher Aharon Levran points out. (Reuters)

Model of bygone conflicts

Nuclear deterrence makes large-scale warfare less likely, military experts tell Abraham Rabinovich

THE electronic visions of the Gulf War are enduring; the "smart bombs" gliding down the chimneys of the Iraqi military establishment, the Cruise missiles turning the rooftops of Baghdad into flying carpets.

It was an amazing spectacle, offering us, in the comfort of our living rooms, a vision of the future, so it seemed, awful but fascinating.

However, it was not the future we were looking at, says Prof. Martin Van Creveld, a Hebrew University military historian. It was the razzle-dazzle exit of wars past, a last flip of the tail of conventional interstate warfare as it passed into history.

"That kind of war is going out in favor of intrastate war," says Van Creveld, who lectures frequently to senior military planners in Israel and abroad. "The future is not the Gulf War. The future is Bosnia."

He does not attribute the end of large-scale warfare between modern states to any change in the pugnaciousness inherent in male hormones but to the atom. Since the end of World War II, he notes, nations have shied away from conflicts that could lead to a nuclear confrontation.

This was true in the Cold War despite the deep-seated rancor between the US and USSR, and it has held true in the equally tense confrontation between India and Pakistan.

"Nuclear weapons have put an end to conventional interstate war in every single place where they have made their appearance," he says.

The only instance in which an attack was launched by non-nuclear states against a country presumed to have nuclear weapons was the Yom Kippur War, says Van Creveld. "But the goals of the Egyptians and Syrians were very limited. Besides, more than 20 years have passed since then."

Although Iraq dared to strike at Israel in the Gulf War, it Scud attacks had the limited objective of drawing Israel into



The Arrow blasts off: Experts are sharply divided on the anti-missile missile's effectiveness.

war so to shake loose the Arab states from the Allied coalition.

The limited nature of the Iraqi strike and the involvement of the Western powers in the conflict rule out an unconventional Israeli response.

Even "crazy" states and those which listen for heavenly voices rendered sober by possession of the atom, contends Van Creveld.

"Any nation that can set up a modern army can get nuclear weapons. But experience shows that you can't fight with nuclear weapons," he says. "If Iran gets its bomb it will have to behave like a nuclear-possessing state. So far this has invariably meant much more responsible behavior."

What induces such responsibility, of course, is the likelihood that the use of atomic weapons will bring retaliation in kind. Therefore, it is imperative for Israel to maintain a second-strike capability that would permit it to retaliate even if the other side strikes first.

According to foreign sources, such a capability would include submarine-launched missiles, land-based missiles in underground silos, mobile Cruise missiles deployed on land or at sea and perhaps a strategic air arm with a nuclear-armed squadron constantly aloft.

Israel responded to the Gulf War by stepping up its efforts to develop the Arrow anti-missile (Continued on Page 10)



Scud damage in Ramat Gan. The city suffered the country's only fatality directly resulting from the war. (Rahamim Israeli)

Worst prewar fears could have come true

IN the weeks leading up to Operation Desert Storm, the world was tense with apprehension. Would Saddam Hussein use his chemical weapons against the Allies? Would he attack Israel? Did he have nuclear capabilities? And, if so, would he use them?

Dire predictions about Iraq's nonconventional weapons capabilities and Saddam's intention to use them were circulating in the weeks and months leading up to the war. But on January 21, 1991, after only four days of aerial bombardment, we were told with great fanfare by Gen. Norman Schwarzkopf in Riyadh that all of Saddam's chemical and nuclear weapons facilities had been destroyed. Saddam was no longer a threat, he implied. The Allies were still going to take him out, but he was no longer a threat.

Five years after the Gulf war, the general public knows a great deal more about Saddam's true intentions and his weapons programs than it did then. And as it turns out, the direst of predictions made prior to the war fell far short of the truth.

Captured Iraqi documents and newly declassified US intelligence reports reveal that Saddam actually gave orders to his field commanders to use chemical weapons against Allied forces, but that these orders were not obeyed. Furthermore, the documents show that Iraq filled its extended-range Scud missiles and

The US-led coalition did not know how extensive Iraq's supply of nonconventional weapons was, according to Kenneth Timmerman

aerial bombs with biological warfare agents and deployed them on the battlefield - for use against Israel and Allied troops in Saudi Arabia.

Other documents recently discovered by the UN Special Commission revealed that Iraq had a program in January 1991 to build a single nuclear warhead from the highly enriched uranium reactor fuel it had received from France and the Soviet Union and that it was planning to build dirty nukes (radiological weapons) with its spent reactor fuel. These new documents show in chilling detail that Saddam had fully intended to use some of the deadliest weapons known to man if the Allies had marched on Baghdad. Knowledge of this "red line" may have influenced the US decision to halt the ground war after only four days.

In April 1991, the UN established a Special Commission for the Disarmament of Iraq headed by Swedish diplomat Rolf Ekeus. Almost immediately after the

commission began special inspections of the heavily-bombed weapons facilities in Iraq, inspectors found that much more had survived the Allied onslaught than had been destroyed by it.

In the nuclear arena alone, they discovered that Iraq had been pursuing four separate paths of uranium enrichment, had spent some \$10 billion, and had assembled a nuclear engineering team of more than 10,000 individuals.

While most of Iraq's nuclear weapons program now appears to have succumbed to the stubborn prying of the UN, far more remains to be learned in two other very troubling areas: ballistic missiles and biological weapons.

Here, the commission teams ran up against a brick wall. For more than four years, the Iraqis consistently denied that they had an offensive biological weapons program. They denied that they were able to manufacture ballistic missiles and claimed they were only jerry-rigging Soviet-built

Scud-Bs to achieve the longer ranges necessary to hit Israel.

As commission chairman Ekeus said in a recent interview, right up until one week before the August 1995 defection of Lt. Gen. Hussein Kamel, the former head of Iraq's military industrial programs and the keeper of many of Iraq's darkest secrets, Baghdad was still denying it had biological weapons. And this despite a mountain of evidence Ekeus and his teams of inspectors had gathered in the field.

Ekeus and his inspectors now believe that Iraq has hidden away as many as two dozen long-range missiles, which it could use at some later date against Israel. They also believe that Iraq has a fully-developed biological weapons arsenal, including several tons of freeze-dried agent and biological missile warheads.

"A few missiles with high-explosive warheads might be illegal, but it is not militarily significant," Ekeus said. "But with biological or chemical weapons warheads, you've got a real problem. This is why we are really concerned by Iraq's ongoing missile capability. If you can destroy Tel Aviv or Jerusalem with a few BW warheads, it takes on another dimension."

The question then becomes, what are Saddam's intentions? Most US analysts believe that his renewed attempt to invade Kuwait in October 1994 shows he (Continued on Page 10)

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The eeriest of wars silenced the city that never sleeps

LYING fully clothed in his empty bathtub at the start of the Gulf war - a pillow behind his head, a wet towel against the bottom of the door, and a gas mask on his face - a Tel Aviv man began laughing uncontrollably as his sense of the absurd momentarily overcame naked fear.

Most Israelis made do with fear, undiluted by reflections on the human condition, as the country embarked five years ago on the eeriest of its many wars. It was a war in which Israel fired not a shot and suffered only one direct combat loss, but it blasted open the road to peace. What would be put to the test in Israel was not the wisdom of its leaders or the bravery of the pilots strapped into their cockpits on standby at air bases around the country, but the morale of little old ladies living at ground zero.

When the war overtook Israel on the early morning of January 18, the most important people manning the nation's bridge were two radio newsmen sitting inside a glassed-in studio in Jerusalem. Zvi Lidor and Micha Friedman happened to be serving as co-anchors on the night shift of the merged Israel Broadcasting Authority-Army Radio broadcasts instituted a few days before. The theory behind the merger had been to spare the public the anxiety of switching between stations for updated reports and to project a sense of national unity in the face of emergency.

When the siren sounded at 2 a.m., many people who were jarred out of their sleep tried to dismiss it as a false alarm. The allies had attacked Iraq 24 hours earlier, but it was unthinkable that the Iraqis could or would fire missiles at Israel. The persistent wall, however, would not be dismissed and the nation, forcing itself to face a new reality, rose from its warm bed, switched on the radio and made its way to the room it had prepared for Armageddon. The act of slamming the door, quickly taping its edges and donning the gas mask was an acknowledgment of mortality, an admission that death was possibly imminent.

In the Jerusalem studio, Lidor put on his mask and continued to broadcast, his voice surprisingly audible. Friedman, who had believed that Saddam's threats were a bluff, had neglected to bring his mask to work. He too continued

to broadcast, although, he would admit later, "I began to smell all kinds of strange odors."

The entire population was awake and listening as the pair passed on the first reports of a missile attack. It was not known how many missiles had been fired, where they had landed or, most importantly, what kind of warheads they carried. Five million people hung on the broadcasters' every word and inflection. Their familiar voices and unfruffled tone carried the unspoken assurance that whatever had happened, it was not the end of the world. For the coming month it would be the steady voices of broadcasters more than anything else that sustained morale.

Jerusalem's cafes in those weeks were filled with Tel Aviv faces looking slightly abashed at their self-initiated exile to their provincial mountain town presumably secure from Saddam's wrath; the Dome of the Rock and al-Aksa Mosque had never looked so good.

Tel Aviv, in truth, had never looked better either. On the first

The nation switched on the radio and made its way to the room it had prepared for Armageddon, recalls Abraham Rabinovitch

day of the war, seemingly deserted by its population, the city that never stopped was silent at last beside the sea, listening to the waves instead of itself. I had come to Tel Aviv to feel its mood and found the atmosphere haunting, the somber silence of a great city that had abandoned itself to its fate.

Tel Aviv, heaven forgive us, had become a holy city. It was not the timeless holiness of Jerusalem on Yom Kippur, but the once-in-a-lifetime holiness of a sybaritic city confronting Doomsday, a holiness induced by recognition of rock-bottom truths scraped clean of vanities.

The city's residents had gathered behind shuttered windows, kindred groups gripping those precious truths about the value of

life as they waited together for the night. On the seafront promenade in the late afternoon, I saw a drunk walking unevenly in the direction of Jaffa. There was no one else in sight on the normally teeming seafront other than a second man sitting on a bench looking out to sea, and he was drunk too.

"Look at that," said the drunk on the bench, waving a hand toward the sea. "A missile."

His hand may have been clutching a bottle in a brown paper bag, but two kilometers away a thick, dark funnel spiraled into the sky. It looked like smoke coming from a burning ship, but no ship was visible on the water's surface.

Could this be the beginning of Saddam's response to the allied attack the night before? But

there had been no sirens and no sound of an explosion. What could be burning out there? Could this be a Sign?

So bizarre was the sight that I turned away and looked at the buildings on Hayarkon Street for a moment thinking that I might be hallucinating. When I turned back that tornado-like spiral was still there, with only the three of us, it seemed, to witness it. (A year later when I saw a photograph on television of a water spout off Israel's coast I realized that that was what I had seen.)

That night, a solitary car drove through Tel Aviv's deserted streets. Although no other vehicle moved and no pedestrians were abroad, the car fastidiously stopped at every red light. The driver, wearing a gas mask and

bulky protective gear against chemical attack, was unrecognizable. When he stopped outside the city's emergency headquarters and attempted to enter, a gas-masked guard pointed an Uzi at his mid-section.

"Identify yourself or I shoot," he said.

Then-mayor Shlomo "Chich" Lahat took off his mask for a moment to show the guard his amused face.

However, Lahat wasn't amused at all by the decision of many Tel Avivians to skip the war, or at least town.

"Is this the way Israel was established?" he asked during a brief visit to *The Jerusalem Post* during the war. "Is this what our education system is about? This should be denied as a national norm. Where will they go next - to Ben-Gurion airport to leave the country?"

A small number had indeed gone abroad, but most people stayed where they were. In Ramat Gan, which suffered the worst Scud hits, a woman with two small pinchers on leashes

walked briskly past the latest damage one morning, casting it hardly a glance. She identified herself to a reporter who stopped her as Ruth David, 63. No, she had no intention of leaving town, she said. "I've got these two dogs and 40 birds at home."

"Might I see them?" asked the reporter. David gave him a quizzical look but assented. All the other occupants of her apartment building were of Iraqi origin, as were many of Ramat Gan's residents. Entering her apartment, however, one found oneself in David's native Berlin. Old portraits of Beethoven and Goethe which she had inherited from her parents hung over her piano. Her mother had been a piano teacher. The shelves were filled with tapes of classical music and books.

There was a racket of birdsong on the balcony emerging from cages holding finches, lovebirds and parrots. The birds had made no sound when the Scuds hit, David said, but they were silent at night in any case. One of her dogs, however, had trembled in her lap. "She's always able to sense my mood."

A widowed teacher living alone, she gave no sign of being terrified by the circumstances. Her family had escaped from Germany two years after Hitler's rise to power. Shortly after their arrival, Arabs had fired at her and her father when they went out walking on the sand dunes. During World War II, she recalled, there had been talk of pulling back to a last-stand redoubt on the Carmel when Rommel's Afrika Corps approached Egypt.

Then there was the War of Independence and the frequent gunfire on the border moshav where she was teaching. Her life experience told her, she said over tea, that this strange war too would pass.

An ex-kibbutznik whose cultural roots were deeply European, David appeared somewhat isolated in the "Little Baghdad" environment of her immediate neighborhood. But she had declined offers from family and friends elsewhere in the country to spend the war with them. There had been similar offers from Christian friends in Germany.

"I told them I can't go," she said. "I've never really found my place here, but this is where I belong."



missile, reorganizing its home defenses to cope with future missile attacks and acquiring long-range F-15 attack aircraft.

Van Creveld says the Arrow development is a waste of money, albeit mostly American money. "To confront a conventional attack, it's really unnecessary - we saw what the Scuds could do," he says dismissively.

The Arrows would be much more expensive than the incoming missiles and several would be fired at each approaching target to increase the chances of hitting. "They would swamp us with missiles and some would get through."

The F-15s on the other hand, were a more effective use of American military aid, says Van Creveld, since they constitute an effective platform for retaliation. As for nuclear attacks, the Arrow would be pointless, says Van Creveld, since some missiles would get through. The one effective safeguard here is deterrence.

(On the eve of the Gulf War, Van Creveld predicted in an interview with *The Jerusalem Post* that Saddam Hussein would launch 20 to 30 missiles against Israel and that the warheads would be conventional. There were 39 missiles fired with conventional warheads.)

An Israel benefit of textual buffers but defending its soil

and possessing nuclear weapons would be a very dangerous enemy to wage war against, says Van Creveld.

Do Israel's potential enemies make such a calculation? "We have for many years deluded ourselves that the other side is not sophisticated," he says. "But they have been aware of the problem from the first minute. One day the whole history of the Arab-Israeli conflict will have to be rewritten. It will then turn out that by not proclaiming that we possessed nuclear weapons we enabled the other side to behave, up to a point, as if we really didn't have them."

If Israelis fear living at the whim of Moslem rulers who will

MODEL

have the power to push the button at any moment, says Van Creveld, the Arabs feel the same way about Israel.

But Israeli leaders are rational people who will not push the button at whim, are they not? "Are they?" asks Van Creveld. "The Arabs certainly don't think so."

Gen. (res.) Avihu Bin-Nun, who commanded the air force at the time, says the Gulf war was a set-piece affair from which it would be dangerous to draw conclusions about "normal" wars Israel might face in the future.

The allies, he noted in an interview this week, had half a year to build up a logistics base and supplies, including 16,000 body bags. They then afflicted the Iraqis for 40 days and 40 nights with the cutting edge of military technology before launching a 100-hour ground attack.

Israel would never have the luxury of such an extended warm-up.

From a tactical point of view, however, there were abundant lessons to be learned about the new technology. The smart bombs, for all their dramatic success, proved vulnerable to poor visibility - even in the usually weather-free Middle East - which interfered with their guidance onto target.

The JStar aircraft, which are capable of monitoring ground movement over hundreds of kilometers, failed to locate the Scud launchers in western Iraq. "Not because they didn't function," says Bin-Nun, "but because they

weren't kept over the area continually."

Bin-Nun agrees with Van Creveld in disparaging the effect of the Scuds. The warheads had no more impact than an aerial bomb and fell randomly, damaging many homes but hitting no strategic targets and killing only one person.

A handful of warplanes would deliver a far more deadly dose than all the Scuds fired at Israel, he said. During the Yom Kippur War, he noted, the Syrians fired several Frog missiles at the Ramat David airbase in the north and accidentally struck nearby settlements.

"The next day we sent 10 Phantoms over Damascus, and they hit the headquarters of the Syrian general staff and air-force headquarters with 80 bombs. There were no more missiles after that."

It was a mistake to frighten ourselves with excessive talk about enemy missiles, says Bin-Nun. "A foursome of warplanes with bombs is a far bigger threat than the 200 missiles the Syrians have."

Bin-Nun revealed that he had opposed asking the public to don gas masks during the war for moral reasons. "I said the Iraqis would not dare use chemicals, and even if they did it would not be effective beyond 20 to 30 meters from the point of impact. But the policy was not to take chances. It was a political decision."

Sharp exception to both Van Creveld and Bin-Nun on the Scud issue is taken by Abaron Levran,

an ex-intelligence officer and former researcher at the Jaffe Center for Strategic Studies.

The explosion in the midst of cities of missiles fired from afar, he says, regardless of their actual killing power, seriously affects a nation's morale and its will to fight.

"What we must have is an active defense and that means the Arrow anti-missile system." The initial drawbacks of the Arrow can be overcome, says Levran, to provide a shield that would be effective enough to make any potential aggressor think twice before risking an attack that would be largely blocked and bring massive retaliation.

The Gulf War, despite its "smart" gadgetry, did not disprove the importance of territory as a strategic factor but the contrary, argues Levran. "With all his Scuds, Saddam didn't conquer one inch of territory except what he took in Kuwait with his armored divisions, and the allies didn't win the war until they moved on the ground."

The territorial imperative applies as well to the Golan Heights, says Levran.

One lesson that Iran drew from the war was the importance of having a nuclear muscle.

"Iran understood that if Iraq had had nuclear weapons, there would have been no attempt to push it out of Kuwait," Levran says.

The nuclear weapons Iran is seeking are aimed primarily at preventing the West from trying to dictate terms and at gearing up against Iraq, whose astonishing

nuclear infrastructure was revealed in the wake of the war. Israel, says Levran, is not at the top of Iran's list of priorities.

All three men agree that the Gulf War effectively ruled out the possibility of another war between states in the region in the foreseeable future. The war deprived Syria of Iraq as a potential ally against Israel.

This, added to the loss of Russian backing, has brought Damascus to the peace table. The three agreed too that a nuclear attack anytime in the future was extremely unlikely, given Israel's second-strike potential.

Van Creveld warns that a Bosnian-type war "isn't much better" than a conventional war. Israel is still snarling from two such wars, the intifada and Lebanon. "The intifada was really a meat grinder. The whole of the IDF passed through it and was ruined in a way. Thank God we are detaching from the territories."

Israel is detaching from Lebanon too if the peace process with Syria moves ahead.

Levran warns that the war-free period we are entering cannot be expected to last forever, given the instability of the region. Van Creveld prefers to take his current history one period at a time and leave the future to the future.

"I think we're going to see peace," he says, sounding almost surprised that a mordant calculation of man's follies and baser instincts would bring him to such a startlingly upbeat bottom line. "We're marching towards peace with our neighbors."

Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies
Department of Political Studies

Center for Defense and Peace Economics
Department of Economics

Politics and Economics of Defense Industries in a Changing World

Monday, January 15, 1996

09.15 Greetings: Prof. Shlomo Eckstein, President, Bar-Ilan University
Prof. Ben-Zion Zilberfarb, Director, Center for Defense and Peace Economics, and Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Bar-Ilan University

The International Politics of the Arms Market
Chair: Prof. Efraim Inbar, BESA

Dr. Ian Anthony, SIPRI: *Military Industries in the Post-Cold War Period*
Dr. Michael Intriligator, UCLA: *The Economics of Defense Conversion*
Prof. Aharon Kileman, Tel Aviv U.: *Adapting to a Shrinking Market: The Iraqi Case*

11.15 **The Economics of Defense Industries**
Chair: Prof. Ben-Zion Zilberfarb, Director, Center for Defense and Peace Economics, and Dean, Faculty of Social Sciences, Bar-Ilan University

Prof. Ann Markusen, Rutgers U.: *U.S. Defense Industry Responses to Post-Cold War Defense Cuts*
Dr. Keith Hartley, U of York: *The Military Industries in the UK*
Prof. Elyahu Kenevsky, BESA: *Iran: The Economics of Building Military Power*

15.00 **The Domestic Politics of Defense Industries**
Chair: Prof. Stuart Cohen, BESA

Prof. Yitzhak Shichor, Hebrew U.: *The Domestic Politics of the Chinese Military Industries*
Dr. Gerald Steinberg, BESA: *The Impact of Political Constraints on the Israeli Missile Industries*
Dr. Yitzhak Klein, Bar-Ilan U.: *Russia: The Failure of Conversion in the World's Largest Military Industrial Complex*

Tuesday, January 16, 1996

09.15 **Comparative Analysis of Case Studies**
Chair: Prof. Shmuel Sandler, BESA

Dr. Michael Brazoska, BICC: *Dilemmas and Practices of Defense Industry Restructuring in West European Countries*
Dr. Etel Solingen, UC Irvine: *The Military Industries of Brazil and Argentina*
Dr. Gil Feller, BESA: *The Military Industries of the Arab World*

11.15 **Roundtable Discussion - The Israeli Military Industries: Where to?**
Chair: Dr. Zeev Boneh, BESA

Mr. Yonakov Lifshitz, Chairman of the Board, Israel Military Industries
Prof. Ezra Sadeh, Hebrew U.
Mr. Imry Toy, Ministry of Defense

All sessions will take place in the Beck Auditorium on the campus of Bar-Ilan University

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TIMMERMAN
(Continued from Page 9)

has never abandoned his ambition to annex the Gulf emirates and take over the Saudi oil fields, and that Iraq will continue to pose a threat to his neighbors.

But Saddam's intentions toward Israel are murkier. According to ex-French defense minister Jean-Pierre Chevènement - a consistent supporter of Saddam, even during the Gulf war - Iraq is now seeking to make peace with Israel, in exchange for Israeli support in getting sanctions against Iraq lifted.

Speaking with reporters on November 1, 1994, during a stopover in Amman after meeting with Iraqi officials, Chevènement said he was driving on to Jerusalem the next day to pitch the Iraqi proposal to then-prime minister Yitzhak Rabin and then-foreign minister Shimon Peres.

Clearly, France, Russia, and to a lesser extent China, are seeking to lift the international sanctions lifted in view of commercial gain.

Both France and Russia have signed potentially lucrative oil contracts with Iraq that are to take effect once the sanctions have been removed. Italy has sent a 30-member trade delegation. And Chinese companies have been supplying Iraq with chemical weapons precursors and rocket fuel. To gain their support, which is critical to his survival, Saddam has mortgaged Iraq's future oil revenues for the next 100 years.

Those who have counted Saddam out should beware. This is a man whose entire regime is based on the exercise of military force. Over the past five years he has sacrificed nearly \$100 billion in lost oil revenues just to protect his weapons of mass destruction. This is because they are the very foundation of his regime. Without them, Saddam is nothing.

As George Bush told US troops waiting to go to war in November 1990, "Saddam never had a weapon he didn't use." We would do well to take those words to heart again today.

مركز من القدس

There's a solution for our traffic problems

On ABC, verification's a dirty word

CAPITAL TALK

TEDDY KOLLEK with Amos Kollek

THESSE days, as you drive around Jerusalem, you get the impression that the major problem of the city is traffic.

Throughout the years, many planning mistakes were made. Apartment buildings went up with one parking space per apartment, at best. Now, there are households that need three spaces. Add to that our ever-increasing amount of commercial traffic.

The city wasn't built for this much traffic, and that's not only the Old City, but the "new" city as well. Newer districts like Pisgat Ze'ev, with their growing developments of single-family homes, don't cause the sort of congestion I'm talking about, but they will create traffic problems of their own.

In 1965, the Jerusalem Municipality stopped granting new permits for high-rise buildings. Some of the permitted structures have only been built since then, with the last one going up now. But more are being planned. Certainly, the demands they will place on our roads are far beyond anything the city has ever dreamed of.

There are, in fact, great plans to solve the traffic problems, but City Hall never managed to get the government to participate fully. In the last few years, the city seems to have done less about the worsening traffic than it had before.

At the same time, we haven't quite overcome errors of the past. On the one hand we stopped allowing high-rise buildings, which are a source of problems worldwide.

HIGH RISES have turned out to be good only for offices, hotels or very rich people who can afford guards, porters and security systems. They have failed entirely as dwellings for most Jerusalemites. We have few residents who can build penthouses at any price and pay for the costly upkeep. Whatever the ads in the papers say about high-rise apartments, they do not pay off.

But single-family houses that are increasingly a feature of our city are also turning into something deplorable. Of course, almost everybody would like to own a house with a garden, but a city

can't afford that. Jerusalem keeps adding neighborhoods characterized by the kind of land waste that this country cannot afford. It's hard to foresee how badly this will hurt the city, but its impact will be bad.

The city has had a running argument with Arab residents who wanted to build single-family homes; they never received permits because they refused to build three- or four-story apartment houses. But the Jewish sector has long been allowed to do exactly what we've told the Arabs not to do. Besides the fact that it is unfair to the Arabs, wherever it happens, erecting single-family homes is detrimental to the city's future, including the traffic situation.

Suburban sprawl means tremendously long commuting and, because public transportation is not as convenient as driving for many residents, that means still more cars.

Unless we provide public transit of high enough quality and frequency, the situation on our roads will be unbearable. The problem is the price is steep, so nobody has been willing to take the steps needed to keep the situation from becoming insoluble.

I once suggested that large free parking areas be built at the edge of downtown, with bus service connecting them to the city center, where private cars would be banned. It would pay off several times over in commuting time and commuters' frayed nerves, and the level of noise downtown.

Public transit would be quick and frequent, and could either be provided free of charge or at a nominal price. Years ago, I concluded that this would be much cheaper than building more roads, bridges and tunnels.

A subway system is impossible for Jerusalem. First, a city needs a minimum of one million inhabitants to justify the cost of building one. But Jerusalem has other constraints - its hilly terrain and archeological wealth - which would make such a project even more expensive.

The solution I suggested years ago still seems to be the most practical, and probably the only one that would work.

In a December 12 *World News Tonight* program on the IDF's withdrawal from Nablus, ABC-TV's correspondent in Israel, Hilary Brown, provided a perfect example of agenda-inspired journalism.

Saying nothing about the violence of the Nabliis mob and the humiliation of the withdrawing IDF troops, she talked of the "young men who poured into the prison where so many had been held for months, sometimes years, for opposing the Israeli occupation with violence."

Ignoring the 1,500 Arab and 250 Israeli deaths this violence caused, she bemoaned the "uncertainty about the 5,000 Palestinian prisoners the Israeli authorities still hold inside Israeli proper."

To provide a taste of the continued suffering, Brown brought up a personal story: "...Abu Shahar is a butcher. His son, Omar, was arrested six years ago at age 16 for throwing stones at soldiers. He's still in jail in Israel..." Of course I rejoice today, says Abu Shahar, "but my happiness won't be complete until my son is free. And I mean all my sons, because I think of all those young people still in prison as my own."

Few scenes can be more moving. Here is a father of a jailed young son whose only crime is throwing harmless stones at the occupation army. What can be a more searing indictment of the callous, brutal Israelis! For a little patriotic boisterousness they throw teenagers in jail to rot for endless years.

Brown did not, of course, bother to verify the story. To go through this elementary journalistic procedure seems to be against ABC's code of conduct when covering Israel.

But a little checking might have helped. Six years ago, in July 1989, two Palestinians - Ibrahim Taktuk, 19, and Samir Na'anish, 22 - were sentenced to life in prison for killing a soldier, Bin-yamin Meisner, by throwing a cinder block on his head from a rooftop.

Four accomplices were sentenced to 15 years each for helping lure the soldier into the city casbah where he was killed. One of the four was Imad (not Omar) Sarah (not Shahar), who was 20 years old at the time, not 16. All the accused, to the cheers of their families in court, pleaded guilty to deliberately causing Meisner's death.

Two weeks after this broadcast, Brown reported in ABC-TV's *Nightline* on the evacuation of Ramallah. "There were some who couldn't resist throwing

one last stone as the convoy pulled out..." she said. How innocent it all sounds! A little harmless pebble to remember them by.

Arguably television's best talk show, *Nightline* is usually anchored by Ted Koppel - whose generally fair approach to the Arab-Israeli conflict makes him an ABC exception. But on the December 27 show devoted to the evacuation of Bethlehem and Ramallah, correspondent Aaron Brown substituted for Koppel. His guiding principle for the show followed the hallowed TV tradition of even-handedness: Arabs who hate the settlers were confronted by Israelis who hate the settlers.

In his introduction, Brown described the Bethlehem withdrawal as "the return of Bethlehem" to the Palestinians. The myth that the Palestinians used to have a state which was taken away by the Israelis has become so prevalent it is now used routinely, with mindless disregard for the simplest facts of history.

Providing the news background, Brown described the Israeli pullout from villages outside Hebron, Hamas strongholds which produced some of the most bloodthirsty terrorists. "Palestinians presented the departing Israeli troops with flowers and olive branches. It was a moving scene. Many Israelis who support the peace accord say it has made them even more optimistic about a process they see as irreversible."

Such descriptions make one wonder if those hardened correspondents are the world's most glib observers. After all, they must hear the same kids glorifying "martyrs" like Yihya Ayyash and vowing to emulate them, and they see the frenzied mobs swearing eternal hatred for Israel. Yet the flowers seem to get them every time.

Opposite these Hebron flower children, Brown presents the show's villains, the settlers. "They are armed religious zealots," she says, "who occupy a 19th-century Jewish hospital... they believe they have a God-given right to live in the town that is the reputed burial site of the biblical patriarch Abraham."

What's striking about such passages is not that journalists like Brown never bother to mention that Jews have lived in Hebron for over 1,500 years, that only a savage Arab pogrom forced them out in 1929, or that throughout

the centuries of Moslem rule they were never allowed to pray in the "burial site of the biblical patriarch."

What is really irksome is that Western correspondents whose own colleagues - let alone hundreds of Western civilians and soldiers - have been murdered, kidnapped and tortured by Moslem fundamentalists, would never allow themselves such a patronizing, contemptuous attitude toward religious Islamists. Nor would they mock their belief in their "God-given right" to, say, kill Jews and other infidels who side with Jews.

What follows is the *de rigueur* story of the root of all evil and cause of all mayhem and bloodshed in the Middle East - the Goldstein massacre, after which Joseph Alpher of the American Jewish Committee is brought in to comment that "Baruch Goldstein belonged to the 5,000 or so settlers... capable of using violence against Palestinians and even against Israeli Jews, in order to try to stop this process." By this point, any doubt about who the bad guys are should be dispelled.

Brown goes on: "...Palestinians say the settlements must be dismantled now if the latest stage of the peace accord is to succeed, and many Israelis agree." (All polls show an overwhelming majority of Israelis opposing the removal of any settlements.)

To drive the point home, Jonathan Kuttub, a candidate for the Palestinian Council, contributes his unbiased opinion: "Armed Jews who walk around, smash everything in sight, insult everybody, create provocations... they want to be lords and masters... when will Israelis have enough moral courage to tell them enough is enough?"

The program is then expanded to include Hassan Katib of the Jerusalem Media Center, and Israeli journalist Aharon Barnea, the Second Channel's Arab affairs commentator. Katib does the usual Palestinian stink about the horrible years of occupation and the joy of liberty, but Barnea, whose arrogance is in inverse proportion to his knowledge, monopolizes the second half of the program.

In a public debate a few years ago Barnea waxed righteous about the Camp David Accords reference to "the political rights of the Palestinians."

(There is no such mention in the Camp David Accords.) On *Nightline* he exhibited his expertise by explaining why the joy of the Bethlehem residents "was much higher than in the other areas of the West Bank." Bethlehem, you see "is mostly Christian... whereas Nabliu and Ramallah are mostly Moslem society." And since Bethlehem was evacuated right before Christmas, he said the inhabitants were more joyous.

Surely, the news that Bethlehem is now less than one-third Christian must have reached even Israel TV commentators, and that Ramallah has a similar percentage of Christians cannot be secret either.

But what is truly amazing is Barnea's ability to estimate joy. Does he do it by measuring the decibel level of the shouts "With blood and spirit we shall redeem thee, O Palestine?"

"The decisions Shimon Peres would have to take in the next year or so," asserts Barnea with typical understatement. "are not only maybe the most difficult in the history of the state of Israel, they may be the most difficult decisions in the history of the Jewish people."

"We must draw conclusions from the fact that Yitzhak Rabin was assassinated by a Jew who is a supporter of those settlers who live on the West Bank, and especially those who live inside the city of Hebron. Those Jews... have no reason to live there. I believe most Israelis think like I do, and I think Shimon Peres will take a decision to evacuate them."

Needless to say, Katib fully agrees that the Jews should be evacuated, and Barnea, gathering momentum, also advocates the evacuation of all Golan residents. After all, he says, they are only 13,000, out of a population of five million.

Watching such programs one can only wonder if there is a single case in the world today in which the deliberate uprooting of people is recommended as a political solution; or if a program on any other issue would include eight participants without inviting a single different viewpoint. But even more disconcerting is the inevitable conclusion that it is unfair to blame foreign journalists like Brown and her colleagues for their patronizing, tendentious and distorted reporting on Israel. They can hardly be expected to be less hostile, contemptuous and callous toward the Jews of Judea, Samaria and Gaza than Israeli journalists like Barnea.

The norms of nibbling

A VIEW FROM NOV
MOSHE KOHN

You think I am offering you power? It is servitude! Am I asking you to assume!

Rabbi Gamliel II, president of the Sanhedrin, to two Sages who declined his offer of office saying they did not wish to be in a position to lord it over people.

Horayot 10a-b

TO US they preached water, while they themselves drank wine.

This was the stinging legend on one of the placards carried by demonstrators in 1989 in Leipzig following the revelations about the high life the "socialist" leaders of the former German Democratic Republic had been living at the expense of the people.

Those East German oligarchs might have been shocked to learn that they were acting according to a principle laid down by our third prime minister, Levi Eshkol.

In 1951 Dr. Emil Schmorak, Jewish Agency comptroller, issued a report revealing mismanagement and financial irregularities in Jewish Agency operations in the years just before and just after the establishment of the state. Among several vital public posts Eshkol held at the time was that of Jewish Agency treasurer, and as such he bore "ministerial" responsibility for the comptroller, for responding to his report and for implementing his recommendations.

The Jewish Agency Executive issued an official response essentially "explaining" away the allegations. Following the executive's all-but-contentious reaction, Schmorak resigned.

Eshkol himself dismissed Schmorak's revelations in his typical folksy manner: he cited a biblical passage that was perhaps ahead of its time in its concern for the well-being of our work animals, "Do not muzzle an ox while it is treading out the grain" (Deuteronomy 25:4) - we are not to prevent that ox from taking an

occasional nibble from the wheat amid which it labors.

That is a very noble injunction indeed. Another one in this vein, by Rabbi Yehuda in Rav's name, tells us to feed our animals before feeding ourselves (*Berachot* 40a).

In general we are enjoined against wantonly killing or causing pain to animals. Walter Rathenau, Weimar Germany's Jewish foreign minister who was assassinated by an antisemite, believed there was no such thing as a Jewish game hunter.

THE MATTER surveyed by Schmorak involved more than a trivial error of duplication, an innocent miscalculation that led to a bit of overspending, a nibble or two at the Agency's paper-clip supply, an unwarranted expense voucher for a taxi ride; more than just a personal telephone call from Jerusalem to Haifa on the office phone.

So by sloughing over Schmorak's revelations and advising the civil servants of the Jewish people of their nibbling rights as he did, Eshkol in effect told them - or thus many of them interpreted his witticism - that they needn't trouble their little consciences over their munching from the public stock lying on the public threshing floor.

This generated the "explanation" cited by people caught treating that floor as if they were lords of the manor helping themselves in their private pantry; the stock as though it were their patrimony; and the public as though we were their serfs.

That explanation has been cited by or on behalf of more than a few public figures who served in the government, the Knesset, civil service, Histadrut, health funds, sports associations

or public enterprises, abused their positions for private gain, and then served prison sentences, and/or paid heavy fines, or had to resign under heavy clouds.

That explanation is: "The Norm."

"I only acted according to the norm," many such a VIP has whined after being caught. And almost invariably there has been a crew of cronies harking back to their shared days in the youth movement or kibbutz who chant, "Yes, the norm," and testify what a stout pal and sterling character the culprit always was, and how much sweat and blood he gave to "The Cause."

But there is also a publicly sanctioned nibbling that has turned into a gluttonous devouring - publicly sanctioned, that is, to the extent that the publicly appointed barons go through the motions of "democratically" voting themselves and their cronies and cohorts double and triple and quadruple portions.

For example, the founder of our Electric Corporation, Pinhas Rutenberg, has surely turned over in his grave a thousand times over what today's IEC officials and technicians have done with the privilege he arranged for the company's pioneer workers seven decades ago: lighting their tents with a bulb hooked up to the company's central generator at no charge. What a distance from that to the tens of thousands of free kilowatt hours today's IEC employees enjoy!

Not to mention the NIS 33,933 average monthly salary of the IEC's 19 senior officials in 1994. Or the NIS 22,807 average for 24 senior Bezeq workers.

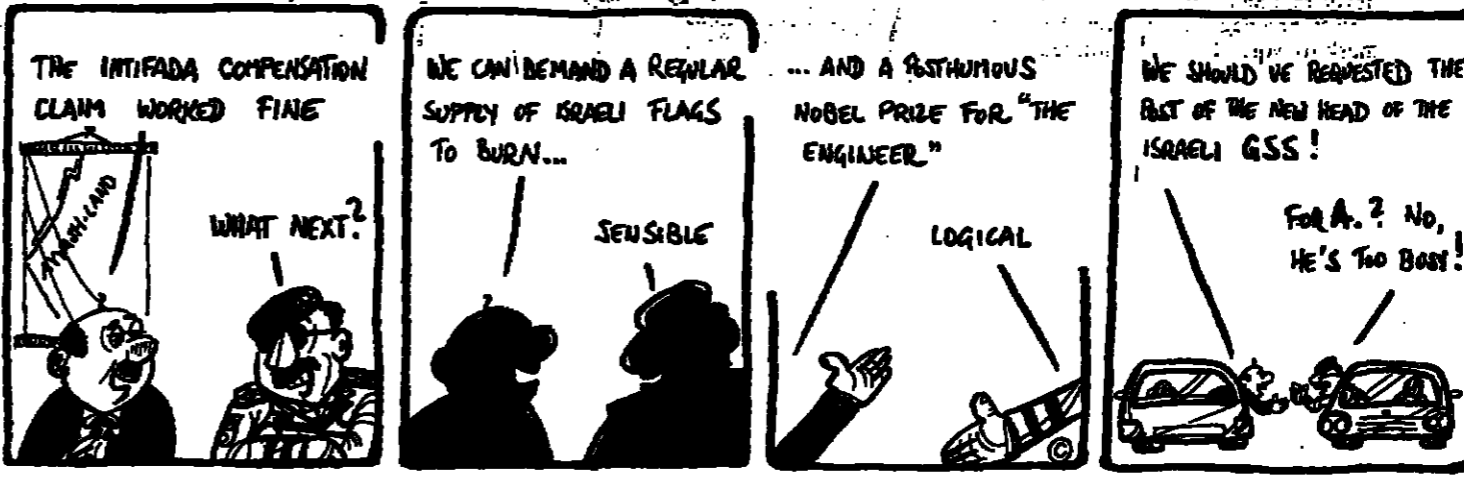
These are two of the figures announced last week by the Finance Ministry's director of wages and labor agreements, Yosef Kutichik. He reported that there was a "real" increase of 7.4% in average wages between 1993 and 1994; in government-supported institutions and enterprises the increase was 17.32%.

The salaries of senior public-sector workers was 10 times as high as those of the lowest-paid workers (*The Jerusalem Post*, January 3). The Knesset, which periodically votes itself considerable raises, is not likely to challenge those "norms." Perhaps the rest of us ought to.

AN ANONYMOUS versifier wrote the following poem of protest against England's Enclosure Laws in 1764:

The law doth punish man or woman,
That steals the goose from off the common,
But lets the greater felon loose
That steals the common from the goose.

SHULIK



The forces of persecution, assimilation

SHABBAT SHALOM
SHLOMO RISKIN

"And the Egyptians made the children of Israel serve with rigor. And they made their lives bitter with hard labor, in mortar and in brick, and in all manner of service in the field." (Ex. 1:13-14)

ALL else being equal, the five million Jews that Josephus estimates were alive when the Second Temple was destroyed should have multiplied into one of the largest nations in the world today. So where are they?

Without their own land, two critical factors determine the people's waning and waning: assimilation and persecution.

When the host country is benevolent, under an enlightened monarch or constitution, they enjoy kid-glove treatment. But that exacts a high price: Old-timers hold onto the customs of their youth, but their children and grandchildren feel more comfortable aspiring to the values of their new land.

But if kid-glove treatment is dangerous, imagine the threat posed by barbed wire. Throughout our history, Jewish communities have been diminished by marauding murderers. Chmielnicki and Hitler murdered millions of Jews with their own hands, and by extension all the victims' unborn descendants.

Persecution causes assimilation for the sake of escaping persecution. The beginnings of persecution and assimilation are found in the first exile in Egypt.

The Jews in Egypt tried to assimilate. Midrash teaches that the people survived in Egypt because it clung to three things: Jewish names, garments and language. But this was only a minority; the vast majority became so entrenched in Egyptian society that, at the time of the Exodus, they actually chose to stay behind

and not go to Israel with Moses.

SEVERAL PORTIONS ahead in *Beshalah*, which describes the Exodus, we read how "the children of Israel went armed (*hamushim*) out of the land of Egypt" (Ex. 13:18). Rashi says *hamushim* can also mean one-fifth (*hamesh*), indicating that one-fifth of the Israelites left Egypt.

What happened to the other four-fifths? They were blinded by the darkness of Egypt and found it impossible to leave. An assimilation rate of 80% in Egypt may sound incredible, but with 75% intermarriage in Vancouver and 52% in the US, North America is not far behind.

The Book of Exodus records this trend. Despite the fact that Jacob's family was originally designated to live in the ghetto of Goshen, we read how "the children of Israel were fruitful, swarmed like vermin and multiplied, waxed exceedingly mighty, and the land was filled with them." (Exodus 1:7) The word "land" suggests the *entire* land, not just Goshen. Midrash is quick to pick up on the hints implicit in the phrase "swarmed like vermin" and "land," explaining that the Israelites moved freely throughout Egypt, including casinos, and houses of idolatry and ill-repute.

But with assimilation lurks the specter of persecution. When the memory of Joseph died, the benign monarchy grew fangs. The same verse suggesting assimilation can also be employed to suggest the roots of Egyptian antisemitism. What the verse may be saying is that in the eyes of the Egyptians, the Israelites increased so quickly they appeared

all over the land, leaving little room for the Egyptians, like vermin. Herein began the process of dehumanization which precedes persecution and, eventually, murder of a minority group.

The process leading to liquidation continued. "And he [Pharaoh] said to his nation: 'Behold, the nation of the children of Israel are more numerous and mightier than we are.'" (Exodus 1:9) Factually, this comment is absurd. But xenophobia is strengthened by such fears.

THE EGYPTIAN leader further played upon his people's fears by suggesting that the Jews would join the enemy in time of war. Pharaoh declares a preemptive strike against the Jews by conscripting them to forced labor which grows in intensity, ultimately leading to the attempted murder of all Jewish male children. Most diabolical of all - foreshadowing Nazi and communist campaigns against the Jews - Pharaoh attempts to use the Hebrews themselves to do his dirty work: "The King of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives... 'If it is a boy, murder him....'" (Exodus 1:15,16)

Miraculously, in Egypt as well as in Nazi-occupied Europe and the Soviet Union, courageous individuals refused to carry out such orders. A midwife who survived the Nazi camps told me her story:

The Nazis decreed that any woman discovered to be pregnant or to have given birth would be murdered together with her child. Some women arrived in the camps pregnant and some became pregnant after arriving. Their pregnancies were not easi-

ly discovered by guards because the distended stomachs produced by malnutrition hid their pregnancies. The midwife had volunteered for the most horrifying camp job of all: transporting bodies to the area where they were to be buried. She would add women in labor to her cargo, deliver the babies and immediately strangle them, so the mothers could live.

Given the twin forces of assimilation and persecution, how did some Jews remain faithful to their heritage?

The secret is to be found with Moses' grandparents and Egyptian-born parents, Amram and Yochebed, who probably spoke the local language perfectly and could have disappeared into Egypt without a trace. But, they did not disappear and produced children - Aaron, Moses and Miriam - who were to be among the people's greatest leaders. They were continuing what their parents had done. Though Moses' grandparents lived in the darkness of persecution, they named their children Amram ("exalted nation") and Yochebed ("glory to God"). (And remember, a Jew who calls himself Mark generally has a different set of commitments than one who calls himself Moshe.)

This week's Torah portion of *Shmot* provides not only the outline of the dangers of exile but also the formula for Jewish survival. No matter what antisemites mete out, we must maintain our pride in Jewish nationhood and our faith in a redeeming God; we must be true to our heritage and the ideals which gave birth to our unique civilization.

Then, although we may not be privileged to witness the Redemption, our grandchildren may be instrumental in bringing it about.

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BRIDGE

MATTHEW GRANOVETTER

est dealer
either side vulnerable

North
(Eisenberg)
♠ 642
♥ K1075
♦ -
♣ KO10864

East
(Hamman)
♠ KQJ10
♥ -
♦ J10963
♣ 97

South
(Roth)
♠ A97
♥ Q786
♦ Q874
♣ J3

est North East South
VT 2NT pass ♣

opening lead: ♠K

SINCE bridge is a sport of the mind and not the body, there are no age limits. You can be under the age of 10 or in your 90s and still compete at the same table. Stamina and experience may affect the level of play, but generally speaking, the experience and wisdom of veteran players make up for any lack of physical stamina.

For example, if you've seen a particular card combination before, you do not have to tax your brain - the best play comes to you naturally. This was demonstrated recently in the comeback of Alvin Roth, now in his 80s, who recently returned to action in the Spingold Team Championship, one of the top events in the US.

Roth was elected to the Hall of Fame of bridge last year and is known not only as a player but also as a great bidding theorist. After managing the Mayfair Club in New York City for 30 years, Roth retired to Florida a few years ago but continued his career by writing a book called *Picure Bidding* and feature columns for *Bridge Today* magazine.

His partner in the Spingold was Billy Eisenberg, a former world champion, who is known for his ability to adapt to his partner's system, a rare trait in an expert player. (Most experts prefer to be the boss in the partnership and dictate what methods will be used.)

Roth's team reached the quarterfinals, where it lost to the number one seed in a very close match. Today's hand is from that

match. Roth was sitting South against the world-famous partnership of Bobby Wolff and Bob Hamman, both of Dallas, Texas. Wolff, sitting West, opened the bidding one no-trump, and Eisenberg, North, overcalled two no-trump, one of Roth's newest inventions. This showed a four-card heart suit and an undisclosed six-card minor. East passed and Roth jumped to four hearts, which became the final contract. Wolff led the king of diamonds and when dummy came down, things looked bleak to Roth. He had to lose the ace of hearts and ace of clubs, and there were two spade losers as well. But the defense made some costly errors.

Roth ruffed the opening lead in dummy, as East played the jack of diamonds, and attacked clubs by leading the king. West ducked but won the next club lead with his ace. Not visualizing the top spade honors in his partner's hand, West continued diamonds by playing the ace. This was an attempt to shorten and destroy dummy's trump entry to the club suit.

Roth countered by discarding a spade from dummy on the ace of diamonds and East followed with the 10 of diamonds. Notice that Hamman, who was East (and is ranked number one in the World Bridge Federation's standing), was trying to signal his partner that he held strong spades by throwing diamond honors under his partner's ace and king. These were suit-preference signals. But West was not receiving the message. He thought that the jack and 10 of diamonds were encouraging more diamond plays. Indeed, if Hamman had simply played the three of diamonds at the first trick, which is a discouragingly low card, he would have signified a desire for a spade shift, dummy's "obvious" weakness.

When West played a third round of diamonds to East's nine and Roth's queen, the eight of diamonds was suddenly high! Roth led trumps and Wolff won the second round to play a fourth diamond. But the diamond eight won the trick and Roth was able to pull the last trump, ending in dummy, and cash the established club tricks.

Nevertheless, Roth complemented his opponents after the fact: "It goes to show that even the great partnerships have misunderstandings in the toughest area of the game - defense."



Rivers rely on large amounts of fresh water to flush out pollutants and revive them. (D. Brumner)

Nature's water demands

NATURE

D'VORA BEN SHAUL

THE demands on Israel's limited water supply grow daily. Immigration, natural birthrate increases, longer lives, more developed industrial infrastructures and even a shift to more productive agriculture are all taking their toll.

Though in the long run these are all positive additions to the natural resources of the country, they contribute to a severe drain on the water resource.

But in the heat of all this development and all of these pressures, one thing often seems to be forgotten. Nature also has a legitimate demand for water resources. It isn't something that has a vital lobby, in fact, it is a silent need that must be met if we are, within the next two decades, to have anything that even remotely resembles native habitats.

One of the first problems is simple. Areas of desert growth, acacias and other trees and shrubs that once flourished in the Arava are now either dead or dying because the water table level is lower and their roots can no longer reach the water.

In addition, thousands of dunams of land are being covered with asphalt that diverts rain from the aquifers to the sewage channels and into the sea. New water reservoirs are catching every drop that should be nourishing the area and, eventually, replenishing the aquifers.

All in all, it is a grim picture and until now we have not had a water commissioner who understood the real problems of water allocation. Most of the commissioners are not only political appointees, but are also ignorant when it comes to the whole problem of the uses and abuses of water.

Rivers depend on substantial amounts of fresh water to flush out pollutants and revive them. After all, the pollution of living streams is as old as the human race, but it is only since we deprived them of their sources of fresh water that they have become chemically laden sewage channels.

As demands for water increase, pumping from near-depleted aquifers also becomes a bigger problem. When water tables fall, nature dies. It's just that

It's all in the timing

CHESS

NICK KOPALOFF

IT is in the timing of moves rather than their substance that the opening theories of romantic, classicist, and hyper-moderns differ. Adherents of each of these three schools agree that, at some point in the game, pawns should be placed in the center. They all advocate rapid piece development, casting into safety, and connecting the rooks along the back rank so they can spring into life through open or half-open files.

A player will inevitably strive to get a grip on the center. But the more valuable the piece, the more exposed it will be in the center. It is for this reason that pieces usually move into the middle of the board in reverse order of their strength.

Classicists believe pawns, being the weakest pieces of all, should be the first to contest the center.

Modernists challenge this idea. On the basis that nothing is weaker than a pawn, they advocate leaving the center of the board empty in the early stages of the game. To modernists, moves such as 1.e4 or 1.d4 are premature. They stress that they do not undervalue the importance of central control, rather they challenge the juncture at which the pieces should start to contest it.

In 1980, Britain's Tony Miles caused a sensation in the chess world. It wasn't just the fact that his win against Karpov was the first time in 20 years that a Brit had defeated a reigning world champion; it was the way in which he won. Miles's postmodernist approach to the opening turned theory on its head.

Karpov, Anatoly - Miles, Tony Skara, Sweden 1980 St. George

1.e4 e6; At the time, this move was thought to be so ridiculous, it didn't warrant a name. After the game, the proud English contingent considered calling the opening the Miles Defense, but it was finally agreed that it would be dubbed the St. George, after the legendary dragon slayer.

2.d4 b5; Leading chess author Michael Basman notes that by this time the spectators' laughter was becoming embarrassing.

3.Nf3 Bb7 4.Bd3 Nf6 5.Qe2 e6 6.a4 c7 7.dxc5 Bxc5 8.Nbd2 b4 9.e5 Nd5 10.Ne4 Be7 11.0-0 Nc6 12.Bd2 Qc7 13.c4 bxc4 14.Nxc3 Nxc3 15.Bxc3 Nb4 16.Bxb4 Bxb4 17.Rxc4 Qb6 18.Ba4 0-0 19.Ng5 h6 20.Bh7+ Kh8 21.Bh1 Be7 22.Ne4 Rxc8 23.Qd3?

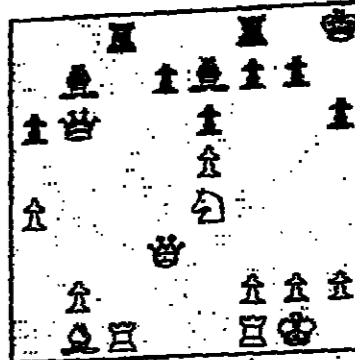


DIAGRAM 1 after White's 23rd move

Karpov's last move was an uncharacteristic blunder. Although White's pressure along the b1-h7 diagonal looks ominously threatening, there is insufficient time in which to carry out the attack.

23...Rxc1 24.Rxc1 Qxb2 25.Re1 Qxe5 26.Qxd7 Bb4 27.Re3 Qd5 28.Qxd5 Bxd5 29.Nc3 Re8 30.Ne2 g5 31.b4 Kg7 32.hxg5 hxg5 33.Bd3 a5 34.Rg3 Kf6 35.Rg4 Bd6 36.Kf1 Be5 37.Kel Rh8 38.f4 gxf4 39.Nxf4 Be6 40.Ne2 Rh1+ 41.Kd2 Rh2 42.g3 Bf3 43.Rg8 Rg2 44.Kel Bxe2 45.Bxe2 Rg3 46.Ra8 0-1

THE POLICE chess team didn't out-point Herzliya's youth team at the Eran Amitai memorial tournament in Herzliya. But, following a 13-13 draw, tournament head Shlomo Kandelstein awarded the trophy to the police team, which scored more points on the higher boards.

THIS endgame position appears to be fading into a lifeless draw. But White, to move, can disturb the balance and force a win.

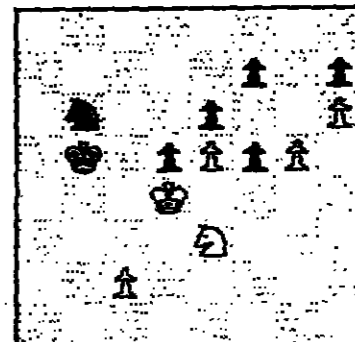


DIAGRAM 2
Solution: 1.Nx5! ex5 2.e6! fxe6 3.g6! e5+ 4.Kd3 hxe6 5.f7 Kc5 6.hQ 1-0

CRYPTIC CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 Way-out in the theatre (5-5)
- 9 Failed to make contact, say, in poor visibility (4)
- 10 Reckon the school principal is one without real authority (10)
- 11 Issue Oriental blend (6)
- 12 Show the rate has been fiddled on the taxi (7)
- 15 Bill prepared for posting (7)
- 16 Nobody's daily account (5)
- 17 Some darts' pro cheats, by overstepping this line? (4)
- 18 Scandinavian drink Mickey introduced (4)
- 19 Admit everything with a cry of pain (5)
- 21 Honour Ben and Noel with new order (7)
- 22 The weariness of military duty (7)

- 24 One way to get inspiration (6)
- 27 Shorts, for example, designed for hill-climbing? (6,4)
- 28 Punishment for a murderer, we hear (4)
- 29 Manage to give a little publicity to the head of department (10)

DOWN

- 2 Broadcast live coverage (4)
- 3 Una upset with sea sickness (6)
- 4 Hailed or shed drops of water (7)
- 5 Bird in poor health (4)
- 6 Getting on in life (7)
- 7 Watching what one says? (3-7)

- 8 Those present two hours before midnight at a ball (10)
- 12 Knotty garlic problem? (5,5)
- 13 Where to yawn, when it's late (6,4)
- 14 The name is right (5)
- 15 Demonstration by printers and photographers? (5)
- 19 It often involves unknown quantities (7)
- 20 Allow no misinterpretation of Belgian French (7)
- 23 I spoil the games, figuratively speaking (6)
- 25 Spring is something one may associate with flowers (4)
- 26 A head on one's shoulders (4)

SOLUTIONS

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C A S T R I C W I N G E R S
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N A T U M U V Y D O O E
S I E S E B A T E B
W H I P P E R D U C T I O N
S A I I S O U
R E B R A C C O S S I N G

Yesterday's Quick Solution
ACROSS: 1 Bedroom, 5 Sweet, 6 Guest, 9 Unaware, 10 Sarcasm, 11 Extra, 12 French, 14 Typify, 17 Eagle, 18 Sleazy, 22 Seattle, 23 Probe, 24 Natch, 25 Sallust.
DOWN: 1 Bogus, 2 Disease, 3 Odour, 4 Monthly, 5 Starving, 6 Exact, 7 Therapy, 12 Treason, 13 Cheesah, 15 Implore, 16 Assure, 18 Gazet, 20 Skipel, 21 Event.

QUICK CROSSWORD

ACROSS

- 1 French capital (5)
- 4 Fire (5)
- 10 Knotty (7)
- 11 Massage (5)
- 12 Name (5)
- 13 Air spray (7)
- 15 Vend (4)
- 17 Chasm (5)
- 19 War-horse (5)
- 22 Quarry (4)
- 25 Farewell (7)
- 27 Furze (5)
- 29 Rub out (5)
- 30 Feeling (7)
- 31 Wager (5)
- 32 Beneath (5)

DOWN

- 2 Adjust (5)
- 3 Malady (7)
- 5 Back packer (5)
- 6 Supervise (7)
- 7 Gemstone (5)
- 8 Perfect (5)
- 9 Grown-up (5)
- 14 Otherwise (4)
- 16 Detect (4)
- 18 Floating (7)
- 20 Cyclone (7)
- 21 Concur (5)
- 23 Beat off (5)
- 24 Incorrect (5)
- 26 Fracture (5)
- 28 Forgo (5)

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1996 campaign has high hopes

WE are starting the 1996 campaign with the high hopes of meeting high demands. This year, we raised over NIS 1 million (all currencies converted to shekels), which seems like a lot of money, but just wasn't enough to meet all the requests for assistance which we received.

Every day, requests for aid land on my desk from social workers and organizations trying to help large families that lack the means to pay for school books, serviceable shoes, winter clothing, dental care, special medical treatments and even toys and books.

We have old people who are living on bread and milk, freezing in the winter and can't afford to pay for dental treatment and essential medications.

And then we have new immigrants, meeting another culture head on and finding it difficult to comprehend. There's never enough money to help their youngsters with university or vocational training.

With all this in mind, I turn to our readers and friends and announce again the opening of our campaign for our three funds: the Forsake Me Not Fund for the elderly; the Toy Fund for children in need; and the Welcome Home Fund, which awards scholarships to new immigrants and young Israelis completing their army service.

This year, our goal is to raise NIS 1.5m., every agora of which is needed. So please send your donations now. Your funds are being used year-round, not just at Hanukkah. Mail your checks to: The Jerusalem Post Funds, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000.

Donors in the US wishing to receive tax benefits can send their donations to: Friends of The Jerusalem Post Funds, 211 E. 43rd Street, New York, NY 10017. Please designate in your letter to which fund you wish to donate.

FUNDS

BEVERLEE BLACK

FORSAKE ME NOT

NIS 200 To dear Rose and Hymie Segal on the occasion of their Golden Wedding, with love - Lily Miller, Faigie Wolf and Pamela Wald, Kibbutz Ezer Ezion.

NIS 150 Mrs. Nina Bellows - Nobel Family, Hailu, in memory of my beloved husband Leo Michael Weiss - Erik Weiss, Ramat Gan, Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fisher, J'm. Mrs. Esther Klafner, J'm. Mr. and Mrs. Heyman, J'm. Avraham and Margot Ben-Yehoshua, Omer, Shoshana Mann, Nalazari, Haim Schneider, J'm. NIS 90 Judge Shoshana Nestyman, J'm. NIS 54 Doris Katz, Ramat Hasharon.

NIS 50 In the fond memory of my parents who lived in Dallas, Texas - Reba Borstein, Tel Aviv, Mrs. Sheila Spier, J'm. Mr. and Mrs. Norman Sacks, J'm. Mrs. Rachel Horenzky, J'm. Samue Lid, Klar Shmuyah, Mrs. Clara Reisel, J'm. Mrs. Yehia Weg, J'm. Mr. and Mrs. M. Kretzner, J'm. Mr. and Mrs. Henry Mar-mor, J'm. Mrs. Maril Davidowitz, J'm. A good friend - B.R., J'm.

NIS 36 With thanks for many mitzvot by Dr. Danny and Vivienne Luzzar.

NIS 30 Mrs. Jonna Berkowitz, J'm. NIS 25 From the Hanukkah gelt of the Fineberg Cousins, J'm. Percy and Zaida Fineberg, Kibbutz Na'an.

NIS 10 Anon., J'm. \$1,000 Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Goldstein, Washington, DC.

\$500 In memory of my beloved mother, Frieda Epstein - Elaine Kantor, Lincoln-wood, IL. In memory of Irvin Charach, Joseph and Rose Miller and our beloved daughter, Janice Charach Epstein - Natalie and Manny Charach, W. Bloomfield, MI.

\$300 In memory of Yitzhak Rabin - The Chavurah Tzodakah, Norwalk, CT. \$100 In loving memory of Frances Rudsky - Jacob Spassman, Brooklyny, NY.

\$75 Toby Garcia, Toronto, Canada. \$72 Miriam Rodgers and Elyahm Ebraam, New York, NY.

\$50 In honor of our children and grandchildren - Anne and Hyman Appleton, Ten-nessee, NJ. David Rosenthal and Shoshana Hani, Riverdale, NY. Anon., Chicago, IL. \$45 In loving memory of my mother, Hana and my brother, Samuel - Charles Rotstein, Chicago, IL.

\$35 Larry Zintzer, Blue Island, IL. \$20 In memory of Elchanan Rotenberg - Mr. and Mrs. Luis Krausz, Sao Paulo, Brazil. \$15 In honor of our children Gabriella,

Ariel, Rafael and Michal Eliaz-Bachrach - Steven Bachrach and Fazel Elias, Madison, PA. Mr. and Mrs. Shimon Hertzog, J'm. \$15 Aaron and Judy Eiger, Staten Island, NY. \$10 Guitele Osofsky, J'm. Carolyn Greene, North Canton, OH. In honor of grandchild Aaron Adelman, Savannah, AKiva, Scott and Michelle - Phillip Davidson, Silver Spring, MD. Fr. Fr. 1,000 In memory of Mr. Yitzhak Rubin - M. and Mme. Henri Gilbert, Seine Port, France.

New Progress Total NIS 2,723 \$2,578 (Other currencies converted to NIS)

TOY FUND

NIS 1,024 Gustav and Gertrude Pogatz, Eisenstadt, Austria. NIS 200 Anon., J'm. NIS 100 Haim Schneider, J'm. Chava Schindler, Kiyat Tivon. Steve and Hana Janssen, J'm. Mrs. Nina Bellows, J'm. Mrs. E. Klafner, J'm. Mr. and Mrs. Sam Fisher, J'm. Betty and Raymond Kaplan, J'm.

NIS 82 In honor of Tamara Sorok's parents - Anne Appleton, Tennessee, NJ. NIS 50 In the fond memory of my parents, who lived in Dallas, Texas - Reba Borstein, Tel Aviv.

\$500 In memory of my beloved mother, Frieda Epstein - Elaine Kantor, Lincoln-wood, IL. In memory of Irvin Charach, Joseph and Rose Miller and our beloved daughter, Janice Charach Epstein - Natalie and Manny Charach, W. Bloomfield, MI.

\$323 In memory of our beloved friend Frieda Epstein - Sara Kay Hochberg (\$200), Dorothy Robinson, Rachel Minzberg, Chardena Masah (3 x \$25), Mae Fields (\$20), Louise Rosenson (\$15), Eliza Marks (\$15), Marjorie Handelman, Sylvia Lieberman (2 x \$10), Chicago, IL.

\$150 In honor of our new daughter, Hanna Cohen, born on December 2 at Hadassah Hospital on Mt. Scopus - Elana and Joseph Alexander, J'm. \$100 In honor of our daughter, Lisa Siegel - Dr. and Mrs. Sheldon Siegel, W. Bloomfield, MI. In loving memory of Alice Kagan, London. In honor of our parents, brothers, sisters and spouses: Ricky and Amy Cantor, Andee and Jon Forster, Meg and Len Cohen, Ginny and Rich Weiser, Jon and Herb Kurland, Ruth Cantor - Robbi and Richard Kurland, Rossmore, VA.

\$85 In memory of Yitzhak Rabin - The Chavurah Tzodakah, Norwalk, CT. \$75 Toby Garcia, Toronto, OH. \$50 Anon., Chicago, IL. Florence Baron, San Diego, CA. \$43 proceeds of the Chananah Workshop Mitvah Table of the Hebrew School, Conservative Synagogue of Riverdale, NY - from Karen, the Deifter Family, Jessica, Orli, Sheryl, Alex, Matt, Elias, Ari, Zach, Josh, Melissa, Charles, Nate, Aaron. (Continued on Page 13)



WIZO head won't be stepping down quietly

GRAPEVINE
GREER FAY CASHMAN

She won't go quietly. The observation usually attributed to Britain's Princess Di may be equally applicable to World WIZO president Raya Jaglom, who steps down next week after 25 years in office and 55 years of service to WIZO.

An outspoken critic of affluent, so-called volunteers who receive remuneration for their work, Jaglom is expected to once again vent her pet peeve at the 21st World WIZO Conference marking the organization's 75th anniversary. But there are other grievances which Jaglom may choose to air before becoming ex-officio, and this has aroused concern among some members of the World WIZO executive.

Asked whether she indeed intends to make any startling disclosures, Jaglom smiled and replied, "You'll just have to wait and see."



Author Barbara Sofer shows her new family travel guide to Jerusalem City Council member David Cassuto. (Douglas Gashko)

HIS APPEARANCE after 60 days in office at the annual luncheon of the Foreign Press Association closed a circle for Prime Minister Shimon Peres. FPA chairman Nicolas Tatro, when calling on Peres to come up to the microphone, noted that he had been the FPA's first guest speaker at its founding meeting in 1957, when the issue then, as now, was withdrawal. Peres, who at the time was director-general of the Defense Ministry, had been asked to speak about Israeli withdrawal from Sinai.

FPA FOUNDING chairman Francis Osher confided to his table companions that Peres had been chosen "because we wanted someone young and untried. He passed the test and we passed the test." Having established itself, the FPA was bolder the second time around and invited David Ben-Gurion, who, according to Osher, was in the habit of reminding newsmen that he had been a journalist himself.

AMONG THE wide-ranging questions posed by foreign correspondents to the prime minister, was one about the number of unofficial visits which Jordan's King Hussein has made to Israel. Peres's straight-faced reply was, "It's a challenge to my memory which is very weak," provoking a gale of laughter.

NO ONE WAS happier than the

husband of publisher Judy Groser when the Jerusalem 3000 edition of *Kids Love Israel, Israel Loves Kids* was finally released. The travel guide for families is by Barbara Sofer, with photographs by Karen Beszian. Groser, who runs Kar-Ben Copies in Washington and Jerusalem, spent several months last year in on-site reviews of places mentioned in the book. Even after returning to the US, she maintained daily Internet contact with Sofer. "They worked together all summer and *baruch Hashem* she came back to me," her husband, Rabbi Oscar Groser, said of his wife during a packed launch reception at Jerusalem's Seventh Place restaurant.

IF AWARDS for courage in the line of duty were being given out this week, the most likely recipient would have been *Yediot Aharonot* photographer Shani Golan. He was the lone Israeli among tens of thousands of Palestinians attending the funeral of the most-wanted terrorist Yihye Ayyash. Golan actually rode the jeep which bore the body and, from there, using his cellular phone, contacted *Yediot Aharonot* journalist Roni Shaked.

AND SPEAKING of cellular phones, Celcom president and former *Yediot Aharonot* reporter Yehuda Kook, was quizzed by the media about some of the technological advances of his company's product, following Ayyash's fatal phone conversa-

tion. Another popular interviewer was former MK and best-selling thriller writer Michael Bar-Zohar. His spy novels often feature sophisticated technology equipment, proving that fiction is merely the forerunner of truth.

"ANOTHER TWO minutes in this cold and we'll propose Bermuda [for the peace talks with Syria]," Israel's ambassador to Washington Itamar Rabinovich told reporters as he and Foreign Ministry Director-General Uri Saviv, waited in the sub-zero cold of the Wye River Conference Center, east of Annapolis, Maryland, for a ride to the airport ... and home. Saviv - sans tie, coat or scarf - was running in place in the snow to keep his circulation going.

Jerusalem was infinitely warmer on Sunday, when the two, along with Foreign Ministry legal adviser Yoel Singer arrived at the Prime Minister's Office to brief Shimon Peres on the talks' progress. The atmosphere became warmer still when Saviv discovered that the prelude to the meeting was a modest surprise party hosted by Peres and attended by government ministers, administrative staff and diplomats who all came to congratulate him on his 44th birthday.

GOALS WELL not quite. Uri Malmillan, the local sports world's most eligible and elusive bachelor, is the prize catch of Tel Aviv University law student Sigal Elimelech. Malmillan, 38, became a soccer legend while playing



The media quizzed Celcom president and ex-GSS head Ya'acov Perry after Yihye Ayyash's fatal cellular call. (Ippa)

for Betar Jerusalem. He has been engaged twice before, but the couple this time has registered with the rabbinate. It's only natural that Elimelech should marry a former soccer star. Her brother, Shavit Elimelech, is goalkeeper for Hapoel Rishon LeZion. Strange as it may seem, the bride-to-be is not a soccer fan.

ISRAEL'S FASHION industry may be going through a slump, but Israeli models are making major career moves abroad. Case in point: Rosh Pina redhead Ma'ayan Karet, who at 19 is doing very nicely, thank you, as an international model commuting mainly between Paris and New York. Karet, who reluctantly began modeling less than three years ago, attracted particular attention in Paris, where Yves Saint Laurent, whose grand finale bridal gown had for six years been unchanged, designed three new bridal gowns especially for her. But that wasn't all. The great YSL personally escorted her down the runway.

SAFELY ENSCONCED in a

Knesset seat, Labor MK Nava Arad left her post as the prime minister's adviser on the status of women. Considering Shimon Peres's penchant for surrounding himself with young people, it comes as no surprise that Svetlana Alexandrov, the new incumbent, is 33. A former actress, the petite Alexandrov, who immigrated from Ukraine in 1990, had previously asserted herself as a leader of new immigrants in Holon where she resides.

THAT'S TELLING them. At a festive meal in a closed-off section of the Knesset's cafeteria, Jewish parliamentarians from around the world met with Israeli women MKs to learn of both their achievements and their problems. After listening intently, Lord Stanley Clinton-Davis, a Labor member of the British House of Lords, looked at Naomi Chazan (Meretz), Yael Dayan (Labor) and Nava Arad who were all puffing away at cigarettes, and with true British humor announced: "You'll never increase women's representation in the Knesset if you smoke yourselves to death."

A political party that's losing its shine

THE WEEK THAT WAS
MICHAL YUDELMAN

TsOMET'S shiny "clean-politics" image is tarnishing fast. The police are investigating two affairs concerning Tsomet leadership's conduct, one of which may lead to a libel suit against party leader MK Rafael (Rafal) Eitan.

The police crime unit in Petah Tikva called Rafal in for questioning under caution a few days ago, on suspicion that he and other party leaders obtained confidential personal data from the IDF computer, which they then used to pressure certain activists to leave the party.

Until recently Tsomet called the whole affair "libel," but at a later stage, without admitting that they did anything wrong, Tsomet leaders justified their actions pressuring one Asher Cohen to quit Tsomet's central committee, by stating that they had discovered Cohen was a deserter from the Yom Kippur War, and it was necessary to save the party from such an element.

Cohen enlisted in the army in May 1973, about half a year before the war. During his training period, at the age of 17½, he was indeed absent from duty for four days, two months before the war.

Cohen was penalized and continued his service, taking part in the war and later passing an officers' course and signing up for professional military service. He was discharged in August 1978, five years later, and his release form bears the mark of the Yom Kippur War. The conduct grading box bears no comment or hint about the absence incident.

"What Rafal and Tsomet's leaders did, after being caught using the IDF information illegally, was stoop to character assassination, slandering an activist for desertion in war both on radio and television," a friend of Cohen's said.

Cohen is considering suing Rafal for libel.

Tsomet is also under investigation for allegedly trying to deceive the state comptroller concerning a contribution it received during the election campaign.

When the state comptroller asked for details about a certain Hecht Fund, which contributed to Tsomet, a fax arrived from accountants Ratzkovsky-Fried confirming that the fund was a corporation registered in Liechtenstein.

Alas, it is against the law to receive funds from a corporation, and to spare themselves enormous fines, Rafal reportedly made a telephone call to the accountants. A few minutes later, a "corrected" fax arrived, confirming that the fund in question is not registered in Israel and is private. This is the fax Tsomet gave the comptroller, and which the police fraud squad is now investigating.



Rafael Eitan (above) is being threatened with a libel lawsuit; the king's visit reminded TA residents of the Gulf war period. (Israel Sam; GPO)



and 1977 had no fewer than six meetings with Hussein, sometimes with then-defense minister Shimon Peres and foreign minister Yigal Allon.

The cloak-and-dagger days are finally over when Rabin, in a dark wig and glasses, held clandestine assignations with Hussein in Paris and London to the delight of cartoonists.

Now King Hussein can parade the streets of Tel Aviv in broad daylight. Like Checkpoint Charlie, another romantic chapter of 20th-century history has closed.

SLIM PICKINGS With his promising to clean out the Histadrut stables, the labor federation's new chairman Haim Ramon launched police probes into the allegedly corrupt affairs of former Histadrut elders, among them a minister, a deputy minister and a Knesset member of today.

The investigation was supposed to shake and shatter Labor's traditional leadership and bring about a political revolution.

But after all the headlines, analyses and fanfare about huge, million dollar rackets, the final pickings for the bloodhounds were slim indeed. All the police and attorney-general have in hand so far is a charge sheet against MK Avi Yehzekel, who this week attended the Knesset committee debate on removing his immunity so he can stand trial.

Yehzekel had worked in the Histadrut for a mere 18 months before being elected to the Knesset. At the beginning of the investigation, he was linked to a NIS 3 million corruption scam. Today he faces a diminished charge of "refusing to pay" some NIS 16,000 from his own pocket.

Yehzekel this week wondered whether he would be "the one to pay the public price for Labor's 70 years of hegemony in the Histadrut." He said he would take the charge sheet to all his election primary gatherings to show how awful his crime was.

Ramon is no longer in the Histadrut, but before he left he issued strict prohibitions on any use of Histadrut facilities and resources for political purposes, such as primaries.

Histadrut workers' union member Matti David recently discovered, however, that several of these restrictions do not apply to elected Histadrut officials. This means that those whose main activity is political and who are most likely to run for primaries, may use their Histadrut offices, telephones and personal assistants for political activity.

The Histadrut leadership, with egg on its face, and under the reprimanding finger of the Histadrut comptroller, hastened to re-formulate the rules.

Alas, even the new prohibitions are far from categorical. They still enable elected officials and their assistants to avail themselves of some Histadrut services and facilities for political purposes.

Perhaps it's time to send for another Ramon. This time, one that works.

FIT FOR A KING Tel Aviv seemed like a city under siege on Wednesday, the day King Hussein dropped by for a friendly working visit.

Most people took the police request not to enter the city seriously, and from 10 a.m. the streets were empty. The 3,000 policemen safeguarding the royal visit were seen in clumps on street corners and in cafes, while traffic lights blinked at intersections as on Yom Kippur.

The lack of traffic, vacant parking lots and vanished pedestrians reminded Tel Avivians more than anything of the Gulf War.

"I can't remember when I walked in the center of Ibn Gvrol in the middle of the day like this since the days of the Six Days," said one. Or, "it took me five minutes to get here from Holon, instead of the usual three quarters of an hour."

Did anyone object to the inconvenience? "Of course not," was a typical Tel Avivian response. "For that man - anytime."

Although it was the first time Tel Aviv closed down in honor of King Hussein, it was not his first visit to the city. During the past 30 years, Israeli leaders held many meetings with King Hussein, several of them in Israel.

Prime minister Yitzhak Rabin, during his first term of office some 20 years ago, arranged a brief visit to Tel Aviv for Hussein. The king caught a glimpse of Dizengoff Street through the dark-tinted windows of a speeding limousine.

Prime minister Golda Meir and defense minister Moshe Dayan met Hussein on the outskirts of Tel Aviv in 1972. But most of the Jordanian monarch's visits to the city were arranged by Rabin, who as prime minister between 1974

(Continued from Page 12)

FUNDS

Richard, Grace, Ena, Gimel Class.
\$20 In memory of Elchanan Rosenberg - Mr. and Mrs. Luis Krausz, Sao Paulo, Brazil.
\$18 In honor of Michal Elias-Bachrach - Steven Bachrach and Pearl Elias, Merion, PA. Mr. and Mrs. Martin Herzog, J.M.
\$16 In honor of my new baby brother Moshe - Adina Teutsch, Brighton, MA.
\$15 In honor of M.L., K.M., and E.R. - Jean Berger, Henderson, KY. Aaron and Judy Eiger, J.M. Guittelle Osofsky, J.M.
\$10 In honor of my baby brother Moshe - Kovi Teutsch, Brighton, MA. In honor of grandchildren Adina, Devora, Shoshana,

Adina, Scott and Michelle - Phillip and Lorraine Davidson, Silver Spring, MD.
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New Progress Donations
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Mr. and Mrs. Norman Sachs, J.M. Mrs. Sheila Spitz, J.M. Sauter, Ltd., Kir Shmaryahu. In fond memory of my parents who lived in Dallas, Texas.
NIS 20 Mr. and Mrs. Henry Marmor, J.M.
NIS 10 In loving memory of Alice Kamm, London.
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\$30 Gerald Bone, Memphis, TN.
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The cost of the seminar includes tour bus from Tel Aviv and Jerusalem and return, admission to all lectures, use of guest house facilities, twice daily bus to the sulphur baths, half-board per person in a double room, etc. etc.

The dates: Monday, January 29 - Wednesday, January 31
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For reservations and further information:
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We meet at the Jerusalem Theater at 9:30 a.m. Tour ends at 12:00 p.m. NIS 55

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NIS 140 (not including lunch).
Tour guide: YONI SHAPIRO

Wednesday January 31 RETURN TO BEIT SHEAN
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NIS 150 (including lunch).
Tour guide: ISRAEL SHALEM

Thursday February 22 MARESHA & BEIT GOVRIN
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Magazine: Clintons are almost broke

NEW YORK (Reuters) - President and Mrs. Clinton are nearly broke because of a mountain of legal bills stemming from the Whitewater affair and a sexual harassment case filed against the president, *Money* magazine reported yesterday.

The magazine said the Clintons' net worth, which had approached \$697,000 in July 1992, is now approaching zero, and the couple were "on a collision course with bankruptcy."

White House spokesman Mike McCurry said that the Clintons were facing financial difficulties due to legal expenses.

"The president has acknowledged that," McCurry said. "There's not much he can do about it because he's got to make sure he has proper and adequate legal defense."

The Clintons are facing legal bills of more than \$2 million a year from the investigation into their Whitewater real estate investments and the sexual harassment suit brought by former Arkansas state employee Paula Jones against the president.

The magazine, which describes itself as the largest financial publication in the United States, said were it not for the more than \$800,000 Clinton is receiving from a legal defense fund or the temporary relief offered by his expensive lawyers, "the first family would already be broke."

It said they owed \$1.6 million in unpaid legal bills by mid-1995, the latest data available. Their total legal bill is about \$2.1 million and the legal expense fund they set up has collected about \$865,000, *Money* said.



Dagestan's Internal Affairs Minister Magamet Abdurazakov (l) listens to representatives of the group of Chechen rebels which raided Kizlyar early Tuesday, during their talks near the Caucasian village of Pervomayskaya yesterday. (Reuters)

Russians surround Chechen rebels

RUSSIAN troops in helicopters and tanks surrounded Chechen rebels who held more than 100 hostages yesterday on the border of Chechnya, and a top Russian commander said the guerrillas must be annihilated.

Talks failed to break the deadlock between the rebels, who say they will shoot the captives if their convoy of buses is not guaranteed safe passage, and the Russians, who insist the rebels release the hostages before crossing into Chechnya.

The Chechens made new demands yesterday, insisting that Prime Minister Viktor Chernomyrdin take part in negotiations, said Leonid Golovynov, a Foreign Ministry spokesman in Moscow.

President Boris Yeltsin, in Paris for the funeral of former French President Francois Mitterrand, said Russia would go along with the rebels' demand to remove troops from Chechnya - once Chechen separatists agree to disarm.

Meanwhile, the US State Department said yesterday that Secretary of State Warren Christopher and newly-appointed Russian Foreign Minister Yevgeny Primakov will meet at a European venue in the first week of February.

The meeting, ahead of a trip by Christopher to former Yugoslavia, will be the first between the two men since Primakov was appointed on Tuesday, spokesman Nicholas Burns said during a Middle East tour by the secretary of state.

Burns told reporters that Christopher had proposed the meeting during an introductory telephone call to Primakov from Israel yesterday morning.

"Primakov agreed, and they've agreed that in the first week of February they will get together. They could not set up a time because...they didn't have their schedules with them," Burns said.

He said the meeting would not be in Russia but gave no further details of the location. Christopher sometimes met Primakov's predecessor, Andrei Kozyrev, in Geneva.

On the hostage crisis, Yeltsin's statement to reporters after his meeting with President Jacques Chirac appeared to reiterate the Kremlin's position in peace talks that collapsed last year. The rebels have said they will not disarm until Russian troops have left Chechnya.

The convoy of 11 buses and two trucks was stopped Wednesday at Pervomayskaya, a cluster of a few dozen houses near the Chechen border in the republic of Dagestan.

Yesterday, the rebels took the hostages off the buses and guarded them in village houses, apparently fearing reprisals if they release them.

Russian troops advanced in dozens of armored vehicles, and trucks towed up heavy artillery. Helicopter gunships circled low overhead, and shelling could be heard in the distance.

"These bandits must be annihilated," Maj. Gen. Alexander Mikhailov of the Federal Security Service told reporters.

The Chechens had earlier released up to 3,000 hostages seized in their raid Tuesday on the city of Kizlyar, where the rebels holed up in a hospital and demanded the withdrawal of Russian troops from their homeland.

Officials in Dagestan said at least 40 people - some 17 rebels, 14 civilians, and nine police officers and soldiers - were killed in the raid on Kizlyar, and about 50 were wounded.

Authorities in Dagestan negotiated safe passage for about 250 rebel guerrillas, who took along some 160 hostages and the bodies of dead guerrillas. Mikhailov said the rebels had released some hostages and by yesterday held about 70 civilians and 40 policemen.

About two-thirds of the hostages on the buses were women and children, who waved white flags from the windows and begged the Russians not to shoot.

Angry residents gathered for spontaneous rallies along the convoy's route, at times nearly blocking its movement.

The rebels brought food and drink from the hospital. Conditions were miserable, however, with a strong wind blowing across the snowy steppe and the temperature at minus 5°C.

Dagestani authorities also provided food, but the Russians turned back officials of the International Red Cross seeking to deliver medicine, food and blankets to the captives.

Rebel Serbs, Moslems meet in Sarajevo amid Bosnian Serb warnings

SARAJEVO (AP) - A Bosnian Serb leader warned of new clashes in Sarajevo if plans to reunite the city under Moslem-led government rule are not postponed.

The warning highlighted Bosnian Serbs' vehement resistance to the Bosnian peace accord that foresees Sarajevo's reunification by March 19. It came on the heels of the first meeting between rebel Serb officials and Moslem leaders in the government-held part of the city since the war began.

"There could be new clashes" if the handover of Serb-held districts to the government is not postponed until Sept. 15, said Momcilo Krajisnik, speaker of the Bosnian Serbs' self-styled assembly, according to the Bosnian Serb news agency SRNA.

He said the talks, mediated by the civilian administrator of the peace process, Carl Bildt, were "useful," but "could not be prolonged forever."

Under the terms of the US-brokered accord, four main Serb-held districts of Sarajevo are to come under government control. Threatening a mass exodus of residents from those districts, Serb leaders have repeatedly asked that the deadline be extended by six months.

As if to underscore that demand, five or six houses were burned in one of those areas, the southwestern suburb of Grabovica.

If the transfer of power to the Bosnian government is not postponed, "a certain number of Serbs will leave Sarajevo," Krajisnik said. "Those who stay might organize armed resistance."

Krajisnik said Serbs would like to stay in Sarajevo, "but not under Moslem rule."

Bildt called Wednesday's meeting "historic" and said mutual trust should be restored to try persuade Serbs to stay. But he ruled out any extension of the March deadline.

The meeting came only a day after an anti-tank rocket fired from a building in the Serb-held Grabovica district hit a streetcar, killing one woman and wounding 19 other people.

In deep sorrow we announce the passing of our dear husband, father, brother and grandfather

Dr. ERNST FUERST ז"ל

The funeral will take place today, Friday, January 12, 1996 (20 Tevet 5756) at 11:30 a.m. at the Ramat Hasharon Cemetery (Morasha Junction).

We will meet at the entrance to the cemetery

His wife, Keta
Daughters, Hannah and Samuel Pinto
Edna Brocke
Brother, Verner and Blansh Fuerst
Grandchildren,
Irit and Hanan Schlesinger
Great-grandchildren, Gal and Ofri

HEBREW UNION COLLEGE - JEWISH INSTITUTE OF RELIGION

The Students, Faculty and Staff express condolences to

ADINA FELDSTERN
on the death of her father

WILLIAM WOLFE

Yeshivat Hakotel expresses its deeply felt condolences to the family and friends of

YOSEF (Joe) GELFMAN ז"ל

who died on Sunday, January 7 (15 Tevet 5756).

We will honor his memory on Sunday, January 14 (22 Tevet 5756), at 8:45 a.m., with an *aliya* *lakever* upon the conclusion of the *shiva*.

Meeting at Har Hazeitim, at the entrance to the road leading to the Wohlyn Section (Gush Gimel) (opposite the Intercontinental Hotel).

Yeshivat Merkav Harav Kook mourns the passing of

YOSEF (Joe) GELFMAN ז"ל

who died on Sunday, January 7 (15 Tevet 5756), and offers deepest sympathy to his family and friends.

A memorial service will be held at Har Hazeitim at the conclusion of the *shiva* on Sunday, January 14 (22 Tevet 5756) at 8:45 a.m.

We will meet at the Har Hazeitim Cemetery, at the entrance to the road leading to the Wohlyn Section (Gush Gimel) (opposite the Intercontinental Hotel).

Bikur Cholim Hospital Jerusalem conveys sincerest condolence wishes and sympathy to the Gelfman Family on the passing of their dear father

JOSEPH (Joe) GELFMAN
בנין ירושלים תנומה
Board of Directors

On Monday, January 15th, to mark 30 days after the passing of

HADASSA KLACHKIN ז"ל

We shall visit her grave in Kiryat Shaul Cemetery at 3 p.m.

France bids adieu to Mitterrand

PARIS (Reuters) - Kings, princes, and presidents bade sorrowful farewell to former president Francois Mitterrand at a requiem in Paris' Notre Dame cathedral yesterday as his family and friends buried him in his hometown in southwestern France.

Across the country, office workers, school children and even the Paris Metro underground railway paused for a minute's silence at 11 a.m. as the twin services began.

Mitterrand, the longest-serving president of France's Fifth Republic, refused a state funeral but left detailed plans for his memorial, including dirges by Chopin and Beethoven and a requiem mass by 20th-century French composer Maurice Duruflé.

German Chancellor Helmut Kohl, Mitterrand's partner in more than a decade of energetic European integration, openly wept in Notre Dame and Cuban President Fidel Castro, one of 65 heads of state and government present, also shed tears.

Leading the 1,300 French and foreign dignitaries in prayer, Cardinal Jean-Marie Lustiger honored the deeply spiritual man who, although raised a Roman Catholic, died an agnostic.

"May Francois Mitterrand find

among the saints, the help, forgiveness and courage to finally open his eyes to the invisible. For as Saint John the Apostle said...God is greater than our heart," Lustiger said in his homily.

Mitterrand's widow Danielle, sons Jean-Christophe and Gilbert, former Foreign Minister Roland Dumas and Justice Minister Robert Badinter were among the inner circle crowding into Jarnac's Saint Pierre church for the private funeral mass.

His companion Anne Pingeot and Mazarine, their daughter born in 1974, walked behind Danielle at the head of the mourners in Jarnac, the small brandy-making town where the late Socialist leader was born in 1916.

The ceremonies for Mitterrand, who died of prostate cancer on Monday at 79, were relayed by video screens to large crowds gathered before the churches 450 km apart.

Bishop Claude Dagens of Angoulême, who gave the homily in Jarnac, said Mitterrand's greatness was not just his political battles and his prestige as a statesman but "also and above all the inner dialogue, the debate he conducted with himself until the end, through light and shadows."

Priests leaned precariously

over police barriers to hand out communion to big crowds filling the square outside Notre Dame.

Mitterrand began his final voyage home just before dawn when military cadets carried his coffin from his Paris apartment. He received final military honors at Villacoublay air base, west of the capital, before his body was flown to Cognac.

"He was one of the great men of the 20th century," said one Parisian waiting outside the 1,000-year-old Gothic cathedral. "I feel as if a page in my life has turned."

Before the services, Mitterrand's successor Jacques Chirac met Russian President Boris Yeltsin and US Vice President Al Gore at the Elysee Palace.

"Adieu" was the most frequent word in French newspapers. Many published pictures of a huge public tribute at Place de la Bastille on Wednesday evening beneath a giant poster of Mitterrand waving goodbye.

Tens of thousands of supporters' laid red roses, the symbol of his Socialist Party, at the square or outside the floodlit residence near the Eiffel Tower where he died.

"We loved each other, we broke up in anger, and now he is gone," said a young woman clutching a bouquet of yellow mimosa.

With great sorrow we announce the passing of our father, brother and grandfather

JUDA LEWIN

The funeral will take place today, Friday, January 12, 1996 at 12:15 p.m. at the Yarkon Cemetery.

Mourning by:
Daughter: Fortune Sorrell and family
Son: Jerald Lewin and family
And all members of the family

Sex Pistols back to 'disrupt' music scene

LONDON (AP) - No future? Hardly.

The Sex Pistols' sworn mission to destroy music in 1976 has evidently failed - 20 years later, they're getting together for a reunion tour, their record company said yesterday.

Lead singer Johnny Lydon (Rotten) told *The Independent* newspaper the original punksters would take a "disturbing, shocking and disrupting" tour to Europe, the United States, the Far East and Australia this year.

Bookings are already confirmed, and the tour will start in the United States in the spring.

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

FRIDAY, JANUARY 12, 1996

It's the gas tax, stupid

ON THE AGENDA
AMOTZ ASA-EL

AS a democracy, Israel has an opposition, but - being Israeli - it is one which places all its bets on international rather than economic affairs.

Municipal bankruptcy, foreign exchange reform, the banking sector's structure, and other major economic issues enter and exit the public agenda without Benjamin Netanyahu sharing his thoughts, or even soundbites, concerning them with us.

Yet economic conditions - like 1992's employment crisis - matter to voters no less, and often much more, than the size of their country. This year's elections could have been an exception, considering the sense of economic prosperity and national perplexity which has pervaded the country, but it now seems they won't.

Fortunately or not, depending on one's political leanings, the ministerial cacophony which accompanied this week's fiscal measures indicates that, like the opposition, the government is oblivious, if not altogether scornful of the public's economic sensitivities.

The belligerence with which half the ministers greeted the dramatically announced - but patently modest - budget "cuts" contrasts sharply with their general indifference to the 15 percent gasoline tax hike. This refusal to pay a price from one's political fiefdom, while nonchalantly exacting another price on ordinary citizens, is sufficient cause for alarm. Let alone that the proposed package amounts to little more than a fiscal charade, a political farce, and an economic shot in the foot.

A charade because the "cuts" are merely transfers from one governmental pocket to another to finance "unexpected" costs, such as health fund deficits and military redeployment. A farce because a seemingly solid gov-

ernment pompously presented an ostensibly bold move, which emerged as a non-plan opposed by half the cabinet. And a shot in the foot because it punishes the middle class, while leaving the public sector unscathed.

Surely, Prime Minister Shimon Peres and Finance Minister Avraham Shohat announced yesterday. The expansion of the plant is expected to create 1,000 new jobs, more than doubling the current number of employees. The company, which is traded on NASDAQ and is controlled by Israel Corp. and National Semiconductor, has more than \$100m. in exports annually.

Tower officials were not available for comment.

Speaking at a conference on

Tower to invest \$240m. in semiconductor plant

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

TOWER Semiconductor will invest \$240 million in its computer chip plant in Migdal Ha'emek despite the government's recent decision to reduce its investment grants, Finance Minister Avraham Shohat announced yesterday.

The expansion of the plant is expected to create 1,000 new jobs, more than doubling the current number of employees. The company, which is traded on NASDAQ and is controlled by Israel Corp. and National Semiconductor, has more than \$100m. in exports annually.

Tower officials were not available for comment.

Speaking at a conference on

"Doing Business in Israel," Shohat said he managed to convince Tower to go ahead with its investment plans despite the government's decision last month to reduce its maximum participation in investment projects from 38 percent to 34%. The decision was made in reaction to the rise in requests for grants. Industry sources feared the reduction would discourage investment here. Shohat said it will be necessary to reexamine the government's investment encouragement policy in 1997 in light of economic and political changes. The minister said a reduction in Israel's risk level, government policy to invest in infrastructure and science, as well as the peace process are adequate incentives to encourage investment and also justify a reduction in grants.

"If someone thinks Israel can forever continue with its existing grant policy in the framework of the capital investment encouragement law - they are simply mistaken. It is necessary to revise the capital investment encouragement law since today Israel is a different country with different economic and political environment than 20 years ago when the law was made," said Shohat.

TAAS to continue staying out of civilian market

STEVE RODAN

FOLLOWING losses of \$100 million over the past two years, TAAS-Israel Industries said yesterday that it will stick to its policy of shunning civilian production and concentrate on the military market.

"The decision to retreat from the civilian market, still applies," TAAS spokesman Avihai Ben-Ya'acov said. "If we find something in the civilian market in which we have an edge, we will try it."

Ben-Ya'acov said the policy to leave the civilian market was adopted in fiscal year 1992, after losses of close to \$100 million in the two previous years. At the time, TAAS was involved in numerous civilian projects, including home construction and manufacturing of locks. The company also sought to manage the proposed canal between the Mediterranean and Dead seas.

In an interview with the financial daily *Globe*, managing director Shlomo Milo said TAAS lost a fortune in investments and from every attempt to enter the civilian sector. "Had we been a private company, it would have led to our collapse," he said. Ben-Ya'acov said since 1993, TAAS's civilian division has shown a profit. The company remains a manufacturer of public telephones for Bezeq, and is now working on several major projects for the Electric Corporation.

TAAS lost \$48 million in 1994, but company officials said there would be an improvement in 1995 and they hope to break even by the end of the fiscal 1996. The company has more than halved its work force in the last five years.

TAAS manufactures of weapons for the IDF, including the Merkava tank. Company officials blame much of their earlier losses on the decrease in orders from the military.

Israel ranks 66 in economic freedom index

Jerusalem Post Staff

ISRAEL has been ranked 66 among 103 countries in an index released yesterday measuring the level of economic freedom.

The "Economic Freedom of the World" report, compiled by the Fraser Institute of Canada in cooperation with research institutes around the world, judged to what extent citizens of each country are free to engage in various economic activities.

Among the criteria of economic freedom surveyed in the report were ability to hold foreign currency; possibility to trade with foreigners; the level of marginal tax; the role of the public sector in the economy; and the extent of subsidization.

The highest-ranking countries in the index were Hong Kong, the U.S., Singapore, Switzerland, Canada, and Great Britain.

The index - the first of its kind - found that countries with higher economic freedom also enjoyed greater economic prosperity.

BUSINESS BRIEFS

'Open gas to competition': Gas prices would drop by one third if the market were subject to real competition, Dor Energy general manager Yossi Antverg said yesterday. Antverg said the recent rise in gas prices resulting from the tax increase could be canceled out by a reduction in retail prices caused by real competition in the sector. *Galit Lipkis Beck*

Israel returns seeds to Holland: The Agriculture Ministry sent back a 50-ton consignment of potato seeds to Holland yesterday, after it learned the seeds are infected by a bacterium which causes heat decay. Israel purchased about 14,000 tons of potato seeds last year, including 10,000 tons from Holland. *Galit Lipkis Beck*

IP High Pressure Cleaners to service Jordanians: IP High Pressure Cleaners, the local importer of KEW Industri, a Danish company, is officially offering sales and repair services to Jordanian customers of the Danish firm. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

Elite-An Bon Pain deal possible: Elite will neither confirm nor deny it is on the verge of signing a joint venture with the Boston-based bakery chain An Bon Pain. "We are examining many areas including that of An Bon Pain," Elite's spokeswoman said Wednesday. *Rachel Neiman*

Edusoft makes sale to Korea: Edusoft and parent company Degen Systems yesterday announced the closing of a \$2.2 million sale to a Korean concern. The package, consisting primarily of multimedia software and some hardware, was delivered in part in late 1995. *Rachel Neiman*

Din signs distribution agreement: Film company Din Productions has recently signed \$934,000 in distribution agreements for the TV series *Tropical Heat*. The show, filmed five years ago in Eilat and co-produced with a US production firm, has earned Din \$10m. The announcement coincides with a visit of US television executives, hosted by the Israel Export Institute. *Rachel Neiman*

Mashav buys 35% of Gold Bond Group

GALIT LIPKIS BECK

THE Smeltzer-Fogel group, owners of the Gold Bond Group, yesterday signed an agreement to sell 35 percent of the company's share capital to Mashav Initiating and Development, a subsidiary of Mashav, jointly owned by Koor and Clal.

Gold Bond was sold for NIS 41.5 million, about 30 percent above the value of the shares. Mashav was valued at NIS 94m. at the end of trading Wednesday.

The agreement was signed after several months of negotiations. Among Gold Bond's assets

are Conterm, which owns bonded warehouses, other warehouses, and a logistics center in Ashdod. The 100-dunam center is the largest in the Middle East. Sources close to the company said the Smeltzer-Fogel group plans to make additional investments in the center, expecting that Israeli warehouses will be the central regional storage area as a result of the peace process.

Conterm is currently in the midst of constructing a 46-dunam cargo terminal in Haifa at a total investment of NIS 7.5m.

Health Ministry expects large shortfall in funding health law

EVELYN GORDON

THE shortfall in funding for the National Health Law will be much higher than the Treasury has anticipated, Health Ministry Director-General Dr. Meir Oren told the Knesset Finance Committee yesterday.

Oren said that at the lowest estimate - the costs of the 1995 basket of services updated for inflation in the health sector - the basket in 1996 will cost NIS 15.6 billion. Total income, however, is expected to be only NIS 15.2b., leaving a

shortfall of NIS 400m. If the basket were instead updated the way the Health Ministry wants - for population increase, the aging of the population and new technologies - the cost of the basket would be NIS 16.3b., creating a shortfall of NIS 1.1b., Oren said.

In addition to the 1996 shortfall, however, 1995's health deficit must still be covered. This deficit, depending on how one calculates, comes to anywhere between NIS 300 million and NIS 855m., according to Oren's figures.

Using the lowest estimates for both figures, therefore, the shortfall for 1995 and 1996 combined would be NIS 700m. However, the revised budget plan approved by the cabinet on Sunday allocates only some NIS 400m. to this problem - NIS 200m. on account of last year and the same figure for this year.

Haim Peltz, the Treasury's representative to the committee, insisted that Oren's figures were simply wrong. The 1996 deficit, he said, will be no more than NIS 100m., and the Treasury has allocated money to cover this sum. But in any case, he said, in-

come should not be linked to expenses, because if it is, the health funds will have no incentive to keep costs down.

However, the health fund representatives retorted that as long as they are required by law to provide a certain basket of services, the government has an obligation to ensure that their income is sufficient to the task.

Committee chairman Gedalya Gal (Labor) ordered the Treasury and the Health Ministry to reach a joint estimate of how much money is lacking for 1996, and then come back to the committee with a funding request.

German GDP rises only 1.9% in 1995

WIESBADEN (Renter) - The German economy slowed sharply in 1995 with gross domestic product (GDP) rising just 1.9 percent after 2.9% in 1994, according to preliminary government data released yesterday.

The Federal Statistics Office said west German GDP growth slowed to 1.5% from 2.4% and east German growth cooled to

6.3% after 8.5% the year before. The figures were slightly below economists' expectations, but the market had been forewarned by recent statements from government ministers about the slowdown and a number of revisions in forecasts by leading economic think tanks.

Germany's GDP in the fourth quarter of 1995 showed no in-

crease from the previous quarter, the Statistics Office said, but gave no detailed figures.

"In the course of the fourth quarter, there was no growth" compared with the third quarter, said Wolfgang Strohm, an official of the Statistics Office.

The office also said that Germany failed to meet the criterion for a single European currency in 1995.

Real Estate & Investments in Israel 1996

Just before Pessach, The Jerusalem Post will publish special supplements devoted to real estate and investments in Israel.

The supplements will be published in the International Editions of March 4, 11 and 18 and in the daily paper on April 5.

For more information and to advertise in these supplements, please contact: Udi Bash 03-6390333 Fax: 03-6390277



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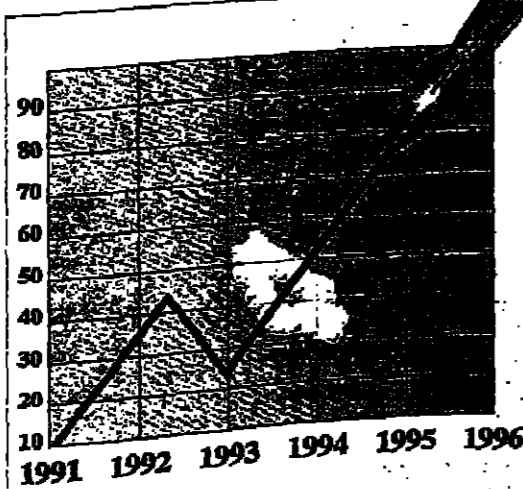
Speakers: H.E. The Canadian Ambassador, Mr. David Berger, Mr. Yoel Snir, Director-General, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Mr. Kevin Gore, Chief Negotiator for the Canadian Government, Dr. Henri Rothschild, President, Canada-Israel Industrial Research and Development Foundation, Mr. Zohar Perl, Assistant Director, Ministry of Trade and Industry, Dr. Gabriella Cohen, Ministry of Trade and Industry

The meeting will take place on Sunday, January 14, 1996, at 5 p.m. at the Sheraton Hotel, 115 Hayarkon St., Tel Aviv.

Those wishing to attend should contact the Israel-Canada Chamber of Commerce by phone at 03-6202544, or by fax to 03-6202513.

The event is sponsored by Bank Leumi.

Is the January Effect Affecting You?



History has shown that in January, the market tends to rise markedly as a result of bargain hunters looking for quality stocks on sale. The "January Effect" is just one of the fluctuations that can catch an investor by surprise. A well-planned portfolio, though, can help an investor profit from market volatility.

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ISRAELI MONEY MARKETS

Patah (foreign currency deposit rates) (9.1.96)	3 MONTHS	6 MONTHS	12 MONTHS
Currency (deposit for)	4.750	4.825	4.825
U.S. dollar (\$250,000)	4.750	4.825	4.825
Found (deposit)	4.774	4.849	4.849
German mark (DM 200,000)	2.250	2.125	2.375
Swiss franc (CHF 200,000)	0.250	0.250	0.375
Yen (10 million yen)			

(Rates vary higher or lower than indicated according to deposit)

Shekel Foreign Exchange Rates* (11.1.96)	Buy	Sell	Banknotes	Buy	Rep.
Currency basket	3.5244	3.5813	3.04	3.19	3.5536
U.S. dollar	3.0295	3.1435	3.04	3.19	3.1200
German mark	2.1561	2.1938	2.11	2.21	2.1738
Found (deposit)	4.774	4.849	4.69	4.58	4.4170
French franc	0.8276	0.8578	0.81	0.85	0.8330
Japanese yen (100)	2.9822	3.0100	2.81	3.08	2.9825
Dutch guilder	1.2527	1.2527	1.38	1.38	1.9412
Swiss franc	2.6782	2.7181	2.63	2.70	2.6878
Swedish krona	0.4899	0.4775	0.48	0.49	0.4750
Norwegian krone	0.4297	0.4276	0.43	0.51	0.4297
Denish krone	0.6570	0.5995	0.54	0.58	0.5820
Finland mark	0.7111	0.7223	0.69	0.74	0.7192
Canadian dollar	2.2847	2.3013	2.22	2.24	2.2845
Australian dollar	2.3287	2.3440	2.25	2.25	2.2822
S. African rand	0.8827	0.8985	0.77	0.87	0.8201
Belgian franc (10)	1.0486	1.0538	1.03	1.09	1.0578
Austrian schilling (10)	3.0829	3.1164	3.01	3.16	3.0911
Italian lira (1000)	1.9721	2.0040	1.98	2.04	1.9557
Jordanian dinar	—	—	4.25	4.25	4.2838
Egyptian pound	—	—	0.98	0.98	0.9883
Irish punt	4.0072	4.0719	—	—	4.0320
Irish punt	4.9385	5.0187	4.85	5.09	4.8798
Spanish peseta (100)	2.5809	2.6023	2.51	2.54	2.5834

* These rates vary according to bank. ** Bank of Israel.

SOURCE: BANK LEUMI

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Indexes fall to end week of declines

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET

FELICE MARANZ



Two-Sided Index

Maof Index

ISRAELI stock indexes fell over the week, following deadlines in Israeli shares traded in New York, and after disappointment that the budget reductions announced on Sunday didn't go far enough.

Among declining shares affected by Wall Street losses, Clal Electronic Industries Ltd. fell 4.1% yesterday, after ECI Telecommunications fell on Nasdaq to 20 13/16 Wednesday from 21 1/2 Tuesday. Clal Electronic owns 28% of ECI, which is not traded in Tel Aviv.

Indexes fell for a fifth straight day yesterday. The Maof fell 0.41 to 208.74, and the Two-Sided fell 0.44% to 216.12. Over the week, the Maof fell 3.04% and the Two-Sided 2.99%.

There's concern that all high-tech companies are going to have weaker earnings, not just Israeli companies," said David Rosenberg, head of research at Herzliya investment firm Pacific Mediterranean. "Next week in Tel Aviv depends a lot on what happens on Wall Street."

Of 1,009 issues trading across the exchange, almost 12 fell for every five that rose. Some NIS 78.5 million worth of shares traded, NIS 41.7m. below Wednesday's level and NIS 34.4m. below last week's average trading level.

Shares also sank over the week, amid disappointment over the budget cuts, which were seen as not going far enough, said Rosenberg.

Declining companies yesterday included the Israel Corp., which fell 1.75%, amid concern that Tower Semiconductor Ltd.,

which fell on Wall Street to a six-month low of 19% on Wednesday from 21% on Tuesday, will continue to decline as semiconductor shares fall.

Israel Corp. owns a stake in Tower, based near Haifa, but not traded in Tel Aviv. "On the whole, Tower's a very good company," said Rosenberg. "But if technology stocks are going to come under pressure, Tower won't be immune."

Other declining shares included Bezeq, which fell 4.6% in the week after news reports British telecommunications concern Cable & Wireless Plc may want to sell its 10% stake. Yesterday, Bezeq declined 1%.

Other declining shares included Clal (Israel) Ltd., which fell 1.25%; Osem, which fell 1.75%; and Tadiran, which fell 2%.

Teva Pharmaceuticals rebounded 2%, as the company formally refuted a newspaper article claiming the company's CEO Eli Hurvitz will be tried for tax evasion.

Teva, the most active share for a second day, sank 3% Wednesday, following declines in its American Depository Receipts, which fell to 42% Tuesday from 44% Monday. Teva's ADRs rose to 43% on Wednesday, and were up 11/16 in early trading yesterday.

Other gainers included Koor Industries, which rose 0.25% following gains in its ADRs, which rose 1/4 to 19% in New York. Koor was up 1/4 in early trading in New York.

Other gainers included Bank HaPoalim, which rose 1.5%, and Discount Investment Corp., which rose 0.25%. (Bloomberg)

Key Representative Rates

US dollar ... NIS 3.1200 -0.03%
Sterling ... NIS 4.8170 -0.22%
Mark ... NIS 2.1738 +0.26%

NEW STOCK MARKETS

New York market indexes

Table with columns: Index Name, Last, Change. Includes DJ Industrials, DJ 30, NYSE Composite, etc.

Other stock market indexes

Table with columns: Index Name, Last, Change. Includes FTSE 100, Nikkei, Hang Seng, etc.

Israeli stocks in NY

Table with columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Includes Israel Corp, Tower, etc.

ASDAQ / over-the-counter

Table with columns: Stock Name, Last, Change. Includes various OTC stocks.

Commodity prices

Table with columns: Commodity Name, Last, Change. Includes Gold, Silver, etc.

Foreign financial data

Table with columns: Country, Index Name, Last, Change. Includes UK, France, etc.

LIBOR rates

Table with columns: Term, Rate, Change. Includes 3 month, 6 month, etc.

US commodities

Table with columns: Commodity Name, Last, Change. Includes Cocoa, Coffee, etc.

London commodities

Table with columns: Commodity Name, Last, Change. Includes various London market goods.

Spot market metals (US)

Table with columns: Metal Name, Last, Change. Includes Gold, Silver, etc.

New York metal futures

Table with columns: Metal Name, Last, Change. Includes Gold, Silver, etc.

London metal futures

Table with columns: Metal Name, Last, Change. Includes Gold, Silver, etc.

TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change. Lists various Tel Aviv stocks.

Property, Building & Agriculture

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change. Lists real estate related stocks.

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Table with columns: Name, Price, Change. Lists bank and financial stocks.

Trade & Services

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Oil Exploration

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INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

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LONDON

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FTSE falls 16 points

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - Renewed turbulence on Wall Street again washed over onto UK stocks, sending the FTSE 100 down for a third day running, though the UK index rallied by the close as the Dow made an early recovery from Wednesday's slump. The FTSE 100 index closed 16.6 points lower at 3,654.9.

FRANKFURT - German shares closed lower than expected, but were lifted off session lows as German debt markets recovered on worse-than-expected 1995 economic growth and a dim outlook for 1996, traders said. The 30-share DAX index closed down 8.68 points at 2,329.51. In post-bourse trade the DAX index stood at 2,330.98.

PARIS - French shares fell, driving the blue-chip CAC-40 index to a close below the 1,900 support level, on nervousness about the continuing budget battle in the US that hammered Wall Street shares on Wednesday. The CAC-40 index closed down 12.26 points or 0.64 percent to 1,897.85.

TOKYO - Tokyo shares ended lower in quiet trade after a collapse of high-tech shares on Wall Street overnight prompted small foreign sell orders in high-techs here. Many traders were sidelined, waiting to see how New York will fare in the next few days. The 225-share Nikkei average ended down 234.40 at 20,377.92.

ZURICH - Swiss shares ended a volatile day down but off the day's lows after an early fall below 3,300 points on the blue-chip SMI index, dealers said the slide was still seen as a normal correction after last year's massive gains and that volumes were good. The All-share SPI index edged down 18.89 points or 0.88 percent to 2,130.26.

HONG KONG - Stocks swung to sharp gains from sharp early losses at yesterday's close on late bargain hunting despite Wall Street's nosedive, players said. The 125-share Hang Seng Index leapt 125.19 points to end at 10,429.82.

SYDNEY - Australian stocks defied the Dow's drop to close higher as the gold sector shone and confident buyers waded into the market in the afternoon session. The All ordinaries index was 10.5 points higher at 2,248.7. JOHANNESBURG - South African gold shares rocketed to end the day at a 12-month high on the back of a firmer bullion price, leaving industrials struggling to hold on to recent gains. The All-share index gained 22.4 points to 6,661.1, the Industrial index shed 2.3 points to 8,315 and the Gold index soared 75.7 points to 1,659.9.

Stocks snap losing streak

WALL STREET REPORT

NEW YORK (Reuters) - Wall Street stocks closed sharply higher yesterday as bargain hunters surfaced after two sessions of big losses.

Based on early and unofficial data, the Dow Jones industrial average ended up 32.16 points at 5,065.10. The rise came after the index lost a total of 165 points on Tuesday and Wednesday amid heavy selling in technology shares.

In the broader market, advanced issues led declines 14-9 on moderate trading of 409 million shares on the New York Stock Exchange.

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Jerusalem Municipality ANNOUNCEMENT The Municipal Administration announces to Jerusalem citizens that the municipal workers' organization is applying sanctions with no previous warning and no justifiable reason - which are liable to interfere with normal municipal services to the city's residents.

Labor court suspends Ouman dismissals

Negotiations to resume today

THE Beersheba Labor Court yesterday forced a compromise on Polgat and the workers of its Ouman Knitting Mills in Ofakim, when it suspended the dismissal notices issued to the workers and instructed the sides to resume negotiations today.

Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz said the compromise is a major achievement, because the court also accepted the Histadrut's arguments in ruling that Ouman has an "economic right to exist."

Ouman was closed down on December 22, and its 230 workers have been occupying the premises since then. In the

MICHAL YUDELMAN

talks which followed, the sides failed to reach an agreement and earlier this week Polgat issued dismissal letters to 190 workers.

The Histadrut asked the court to cancel the dismissals and order Polgat to reopen Ouman for at least six months. It also accused Polgat of renegeing on its agreement to continue operating the plant for six months if orders for 150,000 sweaters were obtained. The Histadrut managed to collect orders for more than 200,000 sweaters.

Polgat insisted that the workers' dismissals stand and that Ouman's closure is final.

man's closure is final.

The court scheduled another hearing for February 15, and ruled that meanwhile both sides must enter negotiations in good faith to settle the differences between them over severance fees under the court's supervision.

The court instructed the sides to report on their progress within a week and again after 15 days. If the negotiations reach a dead end, the parties are required to advise the court.

The Histadrut is determined to continue operating Ouman. Peretz yesterday met an entrepreneur who is interested in purchasing the plant.

Calling Party Pays service slated for April

JUDY SIEGEL

THE Communications Ministry will allow the four paging companies to launch a Calling Party Pays (CPP) beeper service on April 1, if it receives approval from the Knesset Finance Committee next week. The ministry will allow the companies to charge a uniform rate for this service until the end of this year, after which competition will be introduced.

Heads of the four companies - Beeper, Iturit, Beep-a-Call, and Shidurit - claimed in a meeting with ministry director-general Shlomo Waxe last night that they had not already started the service, but have only started a "technical experiment" to see if it works.

However, they admitted that due to technical problems, any-

one who calls the 058 paging code from a public phone to leave or collect messages has six phone units debited from his card.

The service, aimed at increasing beeper subscribers in the face of growing demand for cellular phones, would free subscribers from paying monthly fees, and transfer the cost to those who leave messages.

At the meeting, Waxe was told that Cellcom is interested in offering CPP service from their cellular phones, but Pelephone is not. If approved, CPP service will not be available from the territories or autonomous areas, or from abroad.

Waxe instructed Bezeq to include clear explanations of CPP service in the next telephone bills.

NEWS IN BRIEF

2 border policemen wounded in bombing

Two border policemen were lightly wounded when a bomb exploded near the Sufa checkpoint in Gaza, as they were on joint patrol with Palestinian policemen last night. They were both hospitalized.

One killed in accident

One person was killed and another seriously injured when a car overturned near Rosh Ha'ayin yesterday. A Magen David Adom ambulance brought the injured man to the hospital for treatment.

Shahak begins visit to China

Chief of General Staff Lt.-Gen. Amnon Lipkin-Shahak was greeted with full military honors as he began an official visit to China yesterday. He will meet with the Chinese vice president, defense minister, chief of staff, and other senior military officers.

Eban to host show on peace process

Former foreign minister Abba Eban is to narrate a TV program on the Middle East peace process, to be produced by Channel 13 in New York, the flagship station of the Public Broadcasting System. Eban will help the station put together the program, which will be shown on public TV in the US and distributed internationally.

Observer: Close post offices on PA elections

CHIEF European election observer Carl Lidbom met yesterday with police to ask that post offices in eastern Jerusalem be closed on Palestinian election day to prevent Israeli settlers from interfering with the balloting there. He was assured that police would maintain strict security.

Jon Immanuel

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Bids invited for Purchase of Apartment
1. Description: The apartment is approximately 130 sq.m. in area, and consists of two rooms on the first floor and two storerooms on the ground floor that are attached to it. The apartment is situated in an old building with a large yard.
2. Address: 58 Rehov Hapalmah, Jerusalem, Block 30121, Parcel 107, Sub-parcels 3, 6, 12.
3. The apartment has been valued by a professional assessor for \$400,000.
4. An appointment to view the apartment may be made by calling Advocate Anat Meiri at the phone number below.
5. The bids for the apartment, including details of the method and dates of payment, must be submitted in writing not later than February 2, 1996, at 12 noon, to the address listed below.
The bid should be given in US\$ dollars, and should include a bank check or bank guarantee, linked to the dollar's representative exchange rate, for 5% of the bid total, made out to the estate mentioned below, for a period of 90 days after the last date for submission.
6. The undersigned reserve the right to conduct negotiations with the bidders together or separately, and to publish additional bid proposals. No undertaking is given to accept the highest or any other bid, and no commissions will be paid.
7. The final sale of the apartment will be subject to approval by the Jerusalem District Court.
8. The successful bidder will be required to extend the period of the guarantee's validity until the court's approval of the sale is obtained, and to sign a contract within 30 days of its approval. The bidder will forfeit the guarantee if he withdraws his bid or fails to sign the contract as required.
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Executors of the estate of the late Emil Amiel Najjar
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JERUSALEM CORRIDOR EMERGENCY APPEAL

Support The Jerusalem Post Funds Emergency Appeal to restore the communities and forests of the Jerusalem corridor. The appeal will run until Tu BiShvat, February 5, 1996.

THE PROBLEM:

The fire, last summer, the worst in the country's history, devastated the Jerusalem Corridor, destroyed dozens of homes, community properties and businesses, killed hundreds of animals, domestic and wild, injured nearly fifty people, and ravaged thousands of dunams of prime forest between Sha'ar Hagai and Neve Ilan.

Some 2 million trees were destroyed, and the forests - some planted even before the founding of the State - will take decades to return to their former glory.



ISRAEL SUN

THE SOLUTION:

We appeal to our readers and friends around the world to rush donations as quickly as possible, so that they can be used in the great rebuilding plans now being implemented for this area. The management of The Jerusalem Post Funds is allocating monies to help Shoresh and Neve Ilan rebuild community projects but millions of shekels are needed to clear the devastated areas, rebuild and repair the picnic and leisure sites, and plant trees. We appeal for your support.

Send checks to: The Jerusalem Post Funds/Emergency Appeal, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. Or phone, or mail a VISA credit card donation to Fax. 02-241212. More information from Beverlee Black, 02-233986.

Real Madrid beats Maccabi, 77-75

BRIAN FREEMAN

MACCABI Tel Aviv blew a seven-point lead to Real Madrid in the last 4:40 of the game to lose for the first time at home this season in the European Club Championships.

The 77-75 defeat drops Maccabi's record in the final pool to 4-5 and makes the fight for one of the four quarter-final spots from Group B an uphill battle.

Real increased its record to 6-3 and a share of first place with its first win at Yad Eliahu since December 1985.

Super forward Joe Arlauckas led the defending European champions to victory, overcoming an eye injury to score 35 points, including 17 for 20 from the free-throw line.

Real head coach Zeljko Obradovic also contributed his experience to the win, ironically in a week in which the coaching changeover from Ralph Klein to Zvika Sherf dominated the headlines.

After Madrid scored 13 straight points in three minutes to take a 72-66 advantage with less than two minutes remaining, Maccabi closed the gap to 72-70 to set up the key play of the game.

On Real's next possession, Radisav Curic and Nadav Henefeld managed to break up a pass inside to Arlauckas, but the ball went out of bounds with 55 seconds left and Madrid still in control.

However, with only eight seconds on the shot clock, Obradovic - who has led his teams to three of the last four European titles, called time out and drew up a play.

Real's Juan Arizmendez rebounded the ball to a driving Santiago Abad, who sliced through the defense to score his first field goal of the half and put Madrid up 74-70. Maccabi's last gasp was also

snuffed by some Obradovic strategy.

Point guard Oded Katash brought the ball up the court with less than 30 seconds to play and Maccabi down 75-72, looking for a three-point shot to tie it.

Before Katash could start executing the offense, he was fouled, meaning he would only get two free throws since he wasn't in the act of shooting.

The heavy ending was in sharp contrast to the confidence in which Maccabi opened the game.

The Israelis jumped out to a 14-2 lead in the first four minutes and looked like a refreshed outfit.

Despite a 18-point, first-half effort by Arlauckas, Maccabi held on to a 49-37 lead at the break.

But the second half proved a different story, as Real took the lead with teamwork and steady play, even with Arlauckas on the

bench for the half's first four minutes due to the injury.

For Maccabi, Curic had 15 points, Jamchee 14, Katash 13 and Henefeld 10.

Tom Chambers had 8 points, all in the first period after being sent to the bench for the remainder of the game five minutes into the second half.

For Real, Arizmendez scored 35, Zoran Savic 15 and Antunec 10.

In other Group B action, Barcelona snapped Panathinaikos' 15-game home winning streak with a 95-74 victory. Benfica Lisbon won its first game of the season, 99-90 over visiting Pau-Orthez, and host Buckler Bologna defeated Cibona Zagreb 95-73.

Group B	W	L	Pts
1. Panathinaikos	8	0	15
2. Real Madrid	6	3	15
3. Cibona Zagreb	5	5	14
4. Pau-Orthez	4	6	13
5. Maccabi Tel Aviv	4	4	13
6. Benfica Lisbon	1	8	10

Maccabi Haifa stuns Ajax Amsterdam

DEREK FATTAL

FLYING Datchmen Ajax Amsterdam, champions of Europe and current World Club Cup holders, came crashing down to earth last night against Maccabi Haifa, thanks to a sensational injury-time goal by Haim Silvas that earned the Haifaites a 2-1 shock victory.

Ajax, described recently by Real Madrid coach Jorge Valdano as, "Not just the team of the Nineties but one approaching football Utopia," had conceded just one defeat in 57 games before this friendly bout at Kiryat Eliezer. While the Dutch starting line-up was not the club's strongest, it contained enough first stringers to make this victory another landmark in the development of the local game.

Giora Spiegel's side began on a high note, unsettling the visitors through the silky skills of Haim Revivo who pierced the red-and-white shielded defense in just the third minute, rounding goalkeeper Edwin Van der Sar before nonchalantly planting the ball in the Ajax goal.

Within a quarter-hour the distinguished visitors had drawn level thanks to some neat work on the right by Nordin Wooter who eventually found Jari Litmanen with a cross that the tall Finnish striker just needed to side-foot in.

The equalizer seemed to tear the heart out of Maccabi's game for the rest of the half. Although Revivo and guest forward Eli Ohana looked troublesome when close to the Ajax area, Haifa's moves repeatedly broke down due to poor passing and close marking.

Ajax meanwhile displayed some of the mastery that has taken them to the sport's summit. Players always seemed to have a number of passing options open, and the ball was quickly controlled and moved along the

ground from foot to foot.

In the 34th minute the athletic Kiki Musampa was left looking skywards in disbelief after a certain goal was blocked on the line by Haifa's Moshe Giam.

The next Ajax move ended with the ball in the net but Nordin Wooter was quite rightly flagged for offside.

It was not quite all one-way traffic as Revivo threatened at the other end with an effort that just skimmed over the Ajax crossbar.

The pressure soon resumed when Patrik Kluijver's fiery header required an immediate reflex save from Haifa goalkeeper Rafi Cohen close to the end of the first period.

Ajax coach Louis Van Gaal will probably be wondering just what his counterpart Spiegel said to fire up his men during the break. Whatever, the Haifaites reinforced by the introduction of Nir Shitrit for Ohana, Haim Silvas, Sergei Kandourov for trialist Yvgeny Dimitriyev, and Bosnian prospect Jasmin Oric certainly fell into impressive stride as soon as the match resumed.

Replacement goalkeeper Fred Grim had to rescue his defense three times as many minutes as the home support. Grim pulled off an excellent save from Eyal Berkovitz in the 54th minute after Avishai Jano - who was irreplaceable in this phase of the game - had won the ball on the edge of the area.

The Haifaites seemed to have learned from their opponents as the ball was spread down the

wings with great effect to Silvas on the left and Alon Harazi on the right. By this stage the Dutch looked to be firing on just one engine, particularly upfront where the great Kluijver was being marked out of the game by new signing Yaroslav Kinus.

Two substitutions by the visitors led the way to a brief revival that saw Kluijver register his first serious attempt of the half, only for Revivo to demonstrate the height of Haifa's confidence in the other goalmouth with a cheeky bicycle kick.

With six minutes to play the hosts executed the best move of the game exchanging the ball between eight players before Shitrit finally struck the side netting.

That move perhaps convinced the Maccabi team that they could register a historic victory. In the 86th minute Berkovitz tumbled over the legs of Giam and was awarded a penalty. Kandourov, normally so true from the spot guided a soft kick almost straight at Grim, letting the Dutch side off the hook, to the disgust of the Haifa fans.

Just as the clock ticked on past the official ninety minutes, fate had a more spectacular ending in store. The ball fell to Silvas who was placed well away from the left edge of the box. The young Haifa player let rip what British soccer commentators have christened "a screamer." The ball did just that, hurtling into the far corner of Grim's goal for clearly deserved victory.

This result is a timely boost for the local game after a bruising season in Europe, and suggests that Maccabi might still be a good bet for the league title. The Dutch may find their defense of the European Cup harder than expected unless they return to form quickly once their domestic season restarts on Sunday.

Rangers sink Sharks

NEW YORK (AP) - Mark Messier had two goals and two assists and Pat Verbeek scored two power-play goals, including the 400th of his career, Wednesday night as the New York Rangers defeated the San Jose Sharks 7-4 and extended their home-ice unbeaten streak to 19 games.

Brian Leetch scored the tie-breaker and set up another goal in the third period as the Rangers improved their record at Madison Square Garden to 16-0-3 since losing on October 22. The streak is the second longest in club history, behind only the 24-game streak (17-0-7) of the 1970-71 club.

The Atlantic Division-leading Rangers allowed the Sharks four goals on their first 16 shots before converting five of seven power-play chances. The Sharks, 25th in the 26-team NHL, lost their seventh straight.

Also scoring for New York were Sergei Nemchinov and Roberto Ferraro. Ray Whitney scored two goals for San Jose, while Dody Wood and Ray Sheppard had one each.



THE DUKE OF DUNK - Chicago's Scottie Pippen dunks the ball in the first quarter of Wednesday night's game in Chicago. (Renter)

Nets surge past Knicks, 92-79

EAST RUTHERFORD, New Jersey (AP) - Chris Childs scored 10 of his career-high 21 points in a 14-6 run to open the fourth quarter and the New Jersey Nets defeated the New York Knicks 92-79.

The win snapped the Nets' five-game losing streak against the Knicks and avenged a loss earlier this season when New York beat them with Patrick Ewing sidelined.

Ewing missed 5-of-6 in the fourth quarter and missed a key rebound that Shawn Bradley converted into a basket for an 82-73 lead with 4:19 to play. Ewing finished with 23 points.

Arnon Gilliam had 22 points to lead New Jersey, which won for only the fourth time in 14 games. P.J. Brown added 20.

Bulls 113, SuperSonics 87

Michael Jordan scored 35 points and Scottie Pippen 29 as host Chicago overcame the ejection of Dennis Rodman to defeat Seattle.

Jordan also pulled down 14 rebounds - his high since coming out of retirement last March. Chicago needed Jordan's work on the boards to go 18-0 at home after Rodman was assessed two technical fouls in the final minute of the third quarter.

Shawn Kemp had 17 points and 13 rebounds for the SuperSonics, who absorbed their most decisive loss of the season.

Bullets 96, Sixers 93

Visiting Washington's rookie Rashard Wallace had a season-high 22 points.

Wallace, the fourth overall pick in the draft, also collected a season-high 10 rebounds in outperforming 76ers rookie Jerry Stackhouse, his former North Carolina teammate and No. 3 overall pick. Stackhouse finished with 12 points and no rebounds.

Celtics 113, Kings 104

Dino Radja scored 25 points for host Boston.

Mitch Richmond, who led the Kings with 31 points, scored five straight points to give Sacramento a 97-86 lead with under seven minutes to play.

Dana Barros then started the Celtics on a 17-0 run, scoring six points during the surge. Rick Fox's 3-pointer with 2:40 left made it 103-97.

Barros finished with 22 points for Boston.

WESTERN CONFERENCE				
Midwest Division				
W	L	Pct.	GB	
Houston	24	10	.708	
San Antonio	22	9	.710	.5
Utah	22	11	.667	1.5
Denver	15	19	.441	9
Dallas	9	25	.261	14
Minnesota	8	26	.230	15
Vancouver	6	28	.176	18

Pacific Division				
W	L	Pct.	GB	
Seattle	23	10	.697	
Sacramento	19	11	.633	2.5
L.A. Lakers	18	17	.514	6
Portland	16	18	.471	7.5
Golden State	16	18	.469	8
Phoenix	13	17	.433	8.5
L.A. Clippers	14	20	.412	9.5

Canucks 2, Canadiens 2 (OT)

Jyrki Lumme's goal 9:55 into the second period helped pull visiting Vancouver into a tie with Montreal.

Esa Tikkanen also scored as the Canucks (14-16-11) erased a two-goal Montreal lead with a pair of power-play goals.

Andrei Kovalenko and Vladimir Malakhov scored in the first period for Montreal (19-18-5). The Canadiens have won only one of their last eight games (1-4-3).

Maple Leafs 5, Kings 4

Dave Andreychuk shook out of his season-long slump to score the game-winner as host Toronto defeated Los Angeles. It was only the 11th goal this season for Andreychuk, a former 50-goal-plus scorer.

Bill Berg, Mike Gartner, Todd Warriner and Mats Sundin also scored for the Leafs.

Red Wings 4, Stars 0

All-Star goalie Chris Osgood stopped 25 shots for his fourth shut-out of the season as visiting Detroit spoiled the NHL coaching debut of Ken Hitchcock by beating the Stars.

While Hitchcock was being initiated into the NHL, Detroit's Scotty Bowman picked up his 94th career victory and coached in his 1,613 game, both league records.

Dino Ciccarelli jump-started the offense with a first-period power-play goal. Tim Taylor added a second-period goal and Vyacheslav Kozlov and Steve Yzerman contributed third-period tallies as the Red Wings improved to 24-4-1 in their last 29 games.

WEDNESDAY'S NHL RESULTS:

Vancouver 2, Montreal 2 (4th)

N.Y. Rangers 7, San Jose 4

Toronto 5, Los Angeles 4

Detroit 4, Dallas 0

Washington 4, Buffalo 1

Florida 4, Colorado 1 (tie)

Calgary 3, Hartford 2 (OT)

SCOREBOARD

England beat South Africa by five wickets in their second one-day international yesterday to level the seven-match series at 1-1.

Scores: South Africa 263-8, England 265-5.

TOMORROW'S RUGBY FIXTURES

At Sportek Tel Aviv
9:30 am - E. Lezion v. ASA Technion Haifa
11:00 am - Eagles II v. Falcons II
12:30 pm - San Jose v. San Jose II
2:00 pm - Hapoel Netanya v. ASA Tel Aviv
3:30 pm - Be'er Sheva v. ASA Jerusalem

At Kibbutz Shaanir - 1 pm
Hap. Galil Elyon v. Hap. Kibbutz Yotvat

Which famous NFL quarterback, while in college, was nicknamed the "Navy Destroyer" and went on to win the Heisman trophy?

Jim McMahon
Joe Namath
Terry Bradshaw
Roger Staubach

Answer Sunday.

Answer to yesterday's "Guess Which": The Pittsburgh Penguins were the Stanley Cup champions in 1991.

Fur flies at sports unions' meeting

A FUROR erupted yesterday at the Sports Federation of Israel when Yehuda Ma'agan, treasurer of the Yachting Association, clashed head-on with the directorate - and all the representatives of the other sport associations joined the fray.

Ma'agan rejected the directorate's ruling that each of the 18 minor sport associations should lay out eight percent of its annual Toto allowance in order to cover

accounting costs, legal expenses, registration fees and other expenses provided by the federation.

When Ma'agan refused to sign the agreement, representatives of all the other sport associations followed his example. The directorate, in turn, refused to hand these associations their business licenses, meaning they would still not officially be independent.

After intense negotiations, some associations settled on a compromise. Toto honors only 80% of its promised annual allocation generally, so it was agreed that each of the sport associations would pay 6% of that figure for 6 months worth of services from the federation - when the whole issue will come up for review.

At press time, some of the associations had still not signed the agreement.

Hapoel Jerusalem seeking to increase Second Division lead

ORI LEWIS

SECOND Division soccer action is the staple diet for the second week running this weekend while the National League continues its mid-season break.

Top side Hapoel Jerusalem look to have a very good chance of increasing its one-point lead with an easy home fixture at Teddy Stadium this afternoon against lowly Maccabi Kiryat Gat while second-placed Hakoah Ramat Gan have a tricky match at Maccabi Netanya.

Hapoel Taiba, a further point behind, is waiting to pounce on Hakoah and will not want to lose

ground with a home game against Maccabi Yavne.

The IFA awarded Netanya two more league points in midweek after changing the 3-3 draw with Kiryat Gat a month ago to a 2-0 technical win for Netanya.

Kiryat Gat was penalized after fielding Yoel Suissa, a player whom the club was not authorized to utilize because of budget limitations.

On top of the point lost and the change in goals scored and conceded, the IFA court also slapped

SECOND DIVISION

After 13 rounds

W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Hap. Jerusalem	8	4	1	19	28
Hakoah RG	8	3	2	21	27
Hap. Taiba	8	2	3	17	26
Macc. Yavne	6	6	1	19	24
Hap. Netanya	6	5	2	18	23
Hap. Ashdod	4	5	4	23	17
Hap. Hadera	4	5	4	18	17
Macc. Netanya	4	4	5	18	16
Hap. Kiryat Shmona	2	9	2	13	15
Macc. Yotvat	2	7	4	8	12
Macc. Ziona	3	4	6	15	11
Macc. Kiryat Gat	2	6	9	14	11
Hap. Ramat Gan	2	5	8	16	11
Hap. Kiryat Shmona	2	5	8	15	11
Hap. Ramat Gan	1	7	8	11	10
Shannon TA	1	6	11	20	9

Newcastle upset in League Cup

LONDON (Renter) - Newcastle's French star David Ginola was sent off amid furious scenes on Wednesday night as the Premier League leaders were beaten 2-0 by Arsenal in the English league cup quarter-finals.

Within 40 minutes of the final whistle, the English Football Association (FA) announced they would be launching an inquiry into an angry touchline clash between Arsenal manager Bruce Rioch and Newcastle assistant boss Terry McDermott.

In the other quarter-final ties, Leeds eventually subdued First

Division Reading 2-1 at home after player-manager Jimmy Quinn had given Reading a surprise lead on 17 minutes.

South African striker Phil Masinga equalized after 35 minutes and Welsh midfielder Gary Speed grabbed the winner a minute before halftime.

Premier League's Aston Villa beat Wolverhampton of the First Division 1-0 thanks to a Tommy Johnson 67th-minute goal.

In an all-First Division clash, Birmingham and Norwich drew, 1-1.

Arsenal 2, Newcastle 0

At Highbury, Ginola was dismissed for a second bookable offense after elbowing full-back Lee Dixon in an off-the-ball incident midway through the second half.

It sparked a major bust-up on the touchline, with police having to separate Rioch and McDermott.

Back on the field, Newcastle, already 1-0 down, set about repairing the blow of Ginola's departure.

Pavel Srnicsek should have saved Wright's shot from the 44th minute. The striker's first goal from the edge of the area appeared to go clean through his grasp before nesting in the far corner.

But Srnicsek had no chance with the second a minute from time, Wright heading home superbly from a pinpoint Glen Helder cross.

Upcoming Davis Cup tourney will be dedicated to Rabin

LOCAL SCENE

HEATHER CHAIT

THE upcoming Davis Cup tie between Israel and Norway in Ramat Hasharon (February 9-11) will be a salute to Yitzhak Rabin, who was a keen sportsman. The Rabin family will be present at the courts on the first day when plaques of recognition will be awarded to Amos Mansdorf and Gilad Bloom for their contribution to the sport.

Another beady eye at the tie will be Manuel Santana, Spain's national tennis coach, whose team will play the winner of the Ramat Hasharon clash in April.

Meanwhile, Amir Hadad and Harel Levy were ranked 15 in the ITF doubles youth rankings this week.

Who needs athletic judges? Killing two birds (or even more):

ing into Rosh Hashana.

Olympic lessons

Telling them how it should be done is a newly formed group, Olympic Sportspeople in Israel.

Yael Arad, Lydia Hatuel, Yoav Benek, Rogal Nalium and Nir Chantal have a few polite suggestions how to encourage excellence in sport: comprehensive medical coverage, both during the sporting years and retirement, life insurance, full scholarship for a first degree and job placement.

Malmillian's finest goal

Jerusalem's favorite bachelor, Uri Malmillian, is tying the knot. After dillybbling and almost scoring twice in recent years with other leading ladies, 38-year-old Malmillian has found the winning combination with Sigal Elimelech, a law student and brother of Ironi Rishon Lezion goalkeeper, Shavit Elimelech. Jerusalem's Holiday Inn will be the venue for the game of the century in March.

with one stone: the Athletics Association which rejected the judges' request to an increase in pay and then decided that they were altogether redundant. The judges had asked for NIS 50 for the first 2 1/2 hours instead of the current NIS 35 but the powers that be decided to save the annual NIS 120,000 on judges' pay and to use volunteers - teachers and students - instead.

Bad'minton timing

Yoni Kipper once again steps in to disturb a sporting schedule - this time - badminton. The Mediterranean Games, held each year in Italy, are due to be held this year on Yoni Kipper Eve, September 22. Motti Shenkar, secretary of the union, speedily dispatched a request to postpone the games by one week; bringing them forward would mean bump-

Court revokes ban on using force on Belbaysi

THE High Court of Justice yesterday canceled an injunction against the use of physical force, including shaking, in the interrogation of Abed Belbaysi, who last week admitted to planning last January's Beit Lid suicide bombing attack.

Belbaysi has been under interrogation by the General Security Service since December 6. On December 24, the High Court issued the interim injunction, after the state submitted only a very generalized statement that Belbaysi was dangerous, to justify its use of force. Belbaysi, in contrast, had submitted an affidavit swearing he had never been involved in illegal activity and was not responsible for the deaths of any Jews.

On Sunday, however, the state revealed that Belbaysi had confessed last week to being a member of Islamic Jihad, and to being

EVELYN GORDON

the mastermind behind the Beit Lid bombing, which killed 21.

Three days later, the state asked the court to cancel the interim injunction, explaining in an affidavit that new information obtained since Sunday has revealed "a very high probability that [Belbaysi] has additional information relating to the planning of serious attacks against Israelis in the near future."

"We have reached the conclusion that there is a real and immediate danger to human life in this case," the state's request said. "Under these circumstances, professional judgment [indicates] a vital and urgent need for an immediate continuation of [Belbaysi's] interrogation ... without the limitations imposed by the interim injunction."

Belbaysi's attorney, Andre Ro-

senthal, said he saw no reason to question the GSS's estimation of the danger, and agreed to the use of some physical force, but asked the court to continue to ban shaking, which caused the death of another prisoner last April.

However, Justices Gavriel Bach, Mishael Cheshin, and Yitzhak Zamir said that given the possibility that Belbaysi's information could save lives, there is no justification for banning the GSS from using any legal means of interrogation, including shaking.

"However, it is clear that cancellation of the interim injunction is not a permit to use means that do not accord with the law," the justices added. "In particular, we call the respondents' attention to all the limitations on the defense of necessity [the principle that certain actions which would normally be impermissible are permissible to save lives]."

Number of terror victims down sharply

HERB KEINON

THERE was a dramatic decrease in the number of Israelis killed in terror attacks in the last quarter of 1995, according to a report released this week by Peace Watch.

According to the organization, one Israeli - policeman Muhammad Chuvani, who was fatally shot in Kalkilya - was killed in the last three months of 1995, compared to 13 in the previous quarter.

According to Peace Watch, 49 Israelis were killed in 1995, with most of these recorded in the first three months of the year. By comparison, 73 Israelis were killed in 1994, 65 in 1993, 40 in 1992 and 22 in 1991.

Fourteen Israelis were killed in the last six months of 1995, the lowest number for any six-month period since the end of 1991.

The report pointed out that although only one fatality was registered in the last quarter of 1995, "during this same period there were a number of shooting attacks in the West Bank which resulted in non-fatal casualties, as well as a pair of suicide-bombing attacks which were thwarted in Gaza on November 2."

Peace Watch said the decline in fatalities may be attributed to the negotiations on expanding Palestinian autonomy in the West Bank, which took place during this period, as well as the beginning of the implementation of the Oslo 2 accord.

"It is reasonable to assume that

the Palestinian organizations involved in terror had an interest in acting in such a manner that it would not be possible to blame their attacks for preventing the expansion of autonomy," Peace Watch said in its report.

Likewise, the report said, the Palestinian Authority had a strong motivation to prevent attacks to avoid delaying expansion of its jurisdiction to cities and towns in the West Bank. The organization also said it is possible that the Israeli policy of periodically closing off the territories, as well as allocating substantial resources to preventing attacks, played a role in the decline in fatalities.

In Hebron, meanwhile, Kiryat Arba local council head Zvi Katzover temporarily set up an office yesterday near the Machpela Cave to protest what he said has been an increase of attacks in the area over the last few weeks.

"There were a number of serious attacks recently - an ax attack on a teenage girl, attempted stabbings, firebombs and shootings at Beit Hadassah," Katzover said. "This is while the IDF is in control of the area. The new agreements that enable the Palestinian Authority to be close to Jewish neighborhoods invite trouble, and we suspect that the government wants to weaken the settlement in Hebron to the extent that if it will not be evacuated, people will want to leave on their own."

Court holds up reimbursing Eli Landau for legal fees

EVELYN GORDON

THE High Court of Justice yesterday issued an interim injunction and a show-cause order against the Herzliya city council's decision to shell out some NIS 1.25 million to pay for Mayor Eli Landau's trial.

Landau was recently acquitted by the Tel Aviv Magistrate's Court on fraud charges in connection with the construction of the Herzliya marina. By law, public officials who are acquitted on charges connected to their office are entitled to reimbursement of their legal expenses.

However, Herzliya city councilwoman Yael Garman (Meretz) charged in her petition, Landau was entitled to far less than the city approved.

Landau asked for \$340,000 plus VAT - \$200,000 to one law firm and \$140,000 for another. The maximum reimbursement permitted by law, however, is NIS 330 per court session for magistrate's court cases.

Not only is the sum exorbitant, Garman charged, but it was approved by a faulty procedure.

Initially, the council okayed reimbursement in full for Landau without even knowing for how much he was asking. When Garman complained to the Interior Ministry's legal adviser, a revote was held, but the council was still given no information except the total figure.

2 ambulances stoned in Ramallah

HERB KEINON

TWO Israeli ambulances driving in Ramallah were stoned yesterday, shortly after the city - closed to Israelis since the killing of Yehya Ayyash last Friday - was reopened to Israeli traffic, settlement officials reported.

Pnhas Wallerstein, the head of the Binyamin Regional Council, said the ambulances were stoned at different points in Ramallah. One of the ambulances was carrying a patient from the settlement of Ateret to Hadassah-University Hospital, Mount Scopus, and the other was following close behind.

Wallerstein said that no one was injured, but that the ambulances were damaged.

Last week an ambulance from Shilo was stoned a number of times while driving through Ramallah. Wallerstein said that Israeli ambulances are an easy target "because they are easily identifiable."

According to Wallerstein, since the IDF left Ramallah there has been an increase in the number of rock-throwing attacks on Israeli cars there, and a change in the way the attacks are carried out.

"Now they just stand a few meters from the road and throw the rocks," Wallerstein said. "They never stood this close to the road before. An Arab car will stop, an Israeli car will have to stop behind it, and the car will be bombarded with rocks from a short distance," Wallerstein said.

Wallerstein said he has not discussed the attacks with the Palestinian Police, but only with the IDF.

APPEAL FOR HELP

We appeal for help, on behalf of a large family, in desperate straits. The head of the family is very ill and bedridden. The family has been left with no means of support and, because of the high cost of the father's medical treatment and the family's daily living expenses, it has fallen into deep debt.

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- * Rabbi Levy Yitzhak Halperin, Head of the Institute for Science and Halacha, 140 Geshur Harim, P.O.B. 61025, Jerusalem.
- * Rabbi Zalman Nehemiah Goldberg, Head of the Rabbinical Court, 12a Etzana, P.O.B. 6953, Jerusalem.
- * Rabbi Simha Hachan Kook, Chief Rabbi of Pehovot, 4 David Shimoni, P.O.B. 1047, Pehovot.
- * Prof. Binyamin Z'ev Fraenkel, The Hebrew University, Physics Dept., 24 Hapliah, Jerusalem.
- * Prof. Z'ev Low, The Hebrew University, Physics Dept., 5 Hapliah, Jerusalem.
- * "I also support this appeal" - Prof. Yehuda Levy

Donations can also be deposited in Account No. 377173, ("Fund to Save a Family"), United Mizrahi Bank, Ezyon Vegan Branch or Postal Bank, Account No. 8213893

Inquiries to Rabbani Levin, Tel. 02-357793.

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Avigdor Esken, who allegedly praised the assassination of Yitzhak Rabin and claimed he helped bring it about by placing a religious curse on him, is brought yesterday to the Jerusalem Magistrate's Court, which extended his remand for 24 hours. Esken had fled to Russia after the assassination and was arrested at Ben-Gurion Airport on Wednesday. (Brian Houdler)

Crime along Green Line down

CRIME in communities along the Green Line is down, due apparently in part to the efforts of the Palestinian Police, Police Insp.-Gen. Assaf Hefetz said yesterday.

Hefetz specifically mentioned a drop in car thefts since Palestinian policemen entered Kalkilya, near Kfar Seva, and other Palestinian towns in the territories. He did not give any figures, however.

Bill Hutman

THE JERUSALEM POST

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THE JERUSALEM POST TRAVELER

Watching the Wild in next Thursday's Issue

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IBC Members and friends are invited to an Afternoon Reception

on Wednesday, January 24, 1996, at 5:00 p.m. at Beit Wizo, 38 King David Blvd., Tel-Aviv

Guest Speaker: MR. HARLEY BROOKES
Director of The British Council in Israel

Subject: "CULTURAL DIPLOMACY: THE BRITISH APPROACH"

Members - NIS 15 Guests - NIS 18
Tea/coffee and cakes will be served.

Reservations by phone to IBC's Secretary (Friday) 03-5197771 between 10:00 a.m. - 2 p.m. (Sunday - Thursday).

Norway hails Israel's move to compensate family of slain waiter

THE Norwegian government yesterday praised Israel's decision to compensate the family of Moroccan waiter Ahmed Bouchiki, who was murdered in Norway in 1973.

However, Israel will not accept responsibility for the killing. "We regard very positively the initiative of the Israeli prime minister," said Ingvard Havnen, spokesman for the Norwegian Foreign Ministry.

Havnen was referring to Prime Minister Shimon Peres's decision to ask attorney Amnon Goldenberg to begin talks with the Bouchiki family's lawyers.

A Norwegian citizen, Bouchiki was gunned down as he and his wife left a movie in Lillehammer in July, 1973. The killing was attributed to Mossad agents, who allegedly mistook him for a member of Black September.

Several Israelis were jailed in connection with the murder, but Israel always denied responsibility. Israel's involvement in the Lillehammer operation was confirmed in 1992 by Aaron Yariv, in a television interview which the former head of military intelligence gave shortly before his death.

Peres, who on Monday told members of the Foreign Press Association that Israel would never take responsibility for the killing of Bouchiki "because Israel is not a killing organization," decided on Wednesday to yield to pressures to give some form of compensation to Bouchiki's family.

The decision, made in consultation with Foreign Minister Ehd Barak, Justice Minister David Libe'i and Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair, coincided with the visit here of a large Norwegian parliamentary delegation.

WEATHER

Forecast: Partly cloudy to clear. Shabbat: Clear, possible frost during night.

AROUND THE WORLD

City	Low	High	C	F	C	F
Amsterdam	10	12	50	54	50	54
Buenos Aires	15	20	59	68	59	68
Cardiff	10	12	50	54	50	54
Chicago	15	20	59	68	59	68
Frankfurt	10	12	50	54	50	54
Geneva	10	12	50	54	50	54
Helsinki	10	12	50	54	50	54
Hong Kong	15	20	59	68	59	68
London	10	12	50	54	50	54
Los Angeles	15	20	59	68	59	68
Madrid	10	12	50	54	50	54
Moscow	10	12	50	54	50	54
New York	15	20	59	68	59	68
Paris	10	12	50	54	50	54
Shanghai	15	20	59	68	59	68
Sydney	15	20	59	68	59	68
Tokyo	15	20	59	68	59	68
Vienna	10	12	50	54	50	54
Zurich	10	12	50	54	50	54

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